三鏡一敏
イラスト ファルまろ
ヴァルハラの晩ご飯
～イノシシとドラゴンの串料理（ブロシェット）～
電撃文庫

ヴァルハラの晩ご飯
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三鏡一敏
イラスト ファルまろ
デザイン BEE-PEE

アースガルド
神界での日常
Szene.01
神々の台所
“ヴァルハラキッチン”。
夕飯時はいつも大忙しさ！
まあ、ボクは
そのたびに死んで
料理にされちゃうんだけどね
……（汗）
温和で可憐な戦乙女（ヴァルキューレ）の長女
ブリュンヒルデ
Brynhildr
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の長女。強力な剣の使い手だが、性格は温和で誰にでも敬語で接する。セイの憧れの的であり、ブリュンヒルデ自体も、セイを憎からず思っているようだ。
アースガルド随一の料理人
アンドリムニル
Andhrímnir
ヴァルハラキッチンの料理を一手に引き受けるダンディな料理長。セイを『調理する』張本人だが割と仲はよい。
神界に来た“煤（すす）け色のイノシシ”
セイ
Sæhrímnir
一応本作主人公。本名セーフリームニル。一日一回生き返れるという不思議な能力を持っている。

神界のナンバー2
ロキ
Loki
主神オーディンに次ぎ、位の高い神。様々な魔術に長け、智謀に優れる反面、やんちゃで子供っぽい性格でもあり、セイと意気投合する。
なんと、「あの」ロキさまに気に入られちゃった！この上なく名誉なことだけど、今後なにかやばいことに巻き込まれたらやだなぁ。
アースガルド
神界での日常
Szene.02
誇り高き戦乙女の次女
ゲルヒルデ
Gerhilde
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の次女。スピードと槍さばきに関しては右に出るものはない。「できる姉」であるブリュンヒルデに少々コンプレックスがあるようだ。

え、ここどこ!?
そしてこの竜だれ!?
そして『世界樹』の
ピンチって
どういうことなの!?
ボクただのイノシシ
なんだけど……。
憎悪に満ちた黒蛇竜
ニーズヘッグ
Níðhöggr
過去にオーディンと衝突し、地底世界『ヘルヘイム』まで身を堕とした蛇が変異したドラゴン。今回、神界に史上最悪の厄災をもたらす……?
アースガルド
神界での日常(?)
Szene.03

Volume 1: The Boar and the Dragon Project

Prologue

“Hot! Okay, it’s ready to be put on the bread, quickly transfer it to another plate. Is the caviar enough? Can someone go to the backyard and confirm it?”

During dusk the kitchen suddenly became a battlefield, everything was operating quickly under the strict order of the Chef Head. As usual everyone was very busy today.

This is a usual thing because this place is ‘Valhalla Kitchen’. The kitchen that is responsible for the world biggest cafeteria.

—In a place that is far away from the human world, there is a vast plain which is known as ‘Asgard’. That is the place where mighty gods live.

In the corner of the plains, there is a big golden bullion laying on the edge of the world tree Yggdrasil — that is the solemn gorgeous palace, the golden palace, ‘Glaðsheimr’.

Till now I still couldn’t believe that I am working in the

palace from some fated encounter. A small character like me is serving under Lord Odin in the world's most sacred workplace. This is like a dream of glory. To be more accurate, I am working in the fifth house of 'Glaðsheimr', 'Valhalla'.

"Ah, this sound is....." There is a sound of a distance deep flute informing the Einherjars that the practice for today had finish. After listen to this sound, we, the kitchen crews, also picked up the pace to finish our entire tasks.

"Okay! The appetizer is ready! Is the soup ready? And the granite[1] with the main course ready?

"The salad is already prepared, now the only things left are the dessert and meat!"

The Chef Head kept asking around the kitchen in a steady tone, and I immediately replied. The chef head gave a thumb up to the workers who had finished setting up the kitchen utensil at the big cafeteria. After confirming the dinner situation with his eyes and ears, he nodded his head with a satisfied look and walked toward me.

“The situation is not bad, then Sei as usual, you are now the main character. You are the only one who can finish ‘Valhalla’ dish.” The Chief Head blue eyes filled with confidence.

That right, like what he said, I am the only one in the kitchen that is able to finish this task, there is no one else that can accomplish it— for your information this is a direct order from the chief of the Æsirgod[2] tribe, Lord Odin.

“… Yes, Chief Head, there is no problem…. I’m already mentally and physically prepared for it.”

“Are you sure? I already said it many time though, don’t force yourself? There is still abundant of time left.”

My resolve began to waver when I heard the work “abundant”. I am very happy that he cares for me…. But I cannot stand the anxious anymore, I need to use this momentum to deal with it.

“There is no problem, let’s start now. I will depend on you today as well … Chief Head.” Yesterday, the day

before yesterday, the never ending daily work; tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, this never ending Life's task. This is something that I am proud of and an honor work that causes other people to tremble.

"….. Okay I understand now, then let prepare for the meal. Sei, please wash your hands." "Yes."

"Wash your face." "Yes."

"Wash your feet." "Yes."

"Wash your body." "Yes."

"Be careful on that spot." "Of course."

"Then please go in."

"Aaa~~, there is nothing to be afraid of already!" I 'called out' after I had leaped down, with this there is no going back.

Father — Mother, every day I am doing my best in this 'Valhalla Kitchen' …… as a meal.

"Aahhhhhhhh! It is very hot!!!" As if to seal off my death cry, the pot lid, slowly covering the pot as well.

Chapter 1 - Color of The Smoked Boar

When the sun set, moment before the moon replaces the sun role in the sky, I was revived like there is nothing happen and came back to 'Valhalla Kitchen'.

"Ah, Sei-kun, thanks for the hard work. How was the water temperature today?"

"Oh, Chef Head, aren't you being too discrete? Although I am grateful for your concern but that kind of half-heated temperature was the worse. The fact that I couldn't die caused me more suffering."

"Oh no, what a disgrace! I was planning for the suitable water temperature that would allow you to "po-ku" and die immediately before the quality and the taste of the meat got damaged. Guess I still need more research, haha!"

"What are you laughing at? This is not something funny!!"

"No, actually it quite hilarious. Let's recap the dialogue

just now, if you “po-ku” and die, you will become …… a pork “po-ku”, then pork “po-ku”, hahahaha! Isn’t that fantastic?”

“I am a boar not a pork ……” If we still continue chatting here, it will cause me to think about the hot water in the pot.

Ignoring the cheerful Chef Head, I looked up at the pot on the stove. The steam is hitting the cover of the pot and the sweet fragrance that flew out aroused my hunger.

“Wait, why am I getting so hungry after smelling my own fragrance?” This sentence is both logic and illogical. That is because the meat inside the pot is me that passed away just few moments ago. Wait you still do not understand? Actually this is a simple matter. Let me explain what happen just now as it seems confusing.

I, the dark brown boar “Sæhrímnir” was born with a mysterious trait that is being immortal. Since it might cause some misunderstanding, let me rephrase it, even though I have died normally, I am able to

resurrect without any problem which is this mysterious trait. But it's not a simple matter of resurrection, my ability is: after it activates, there will be a new body born with all my memory and experience beside the corpse.

Lord Odin was surprised when he first heard of this ability. He even said, "This reminds me of Gullveig."

I was curious after that so I went back to my home and looked for some documents that can give me a clue of Gullveig. From the document, I found that Gullveig is also known as the golden goddess of Vanir, which has the ability that allows her to resurrect no matter how many times she dies.

This means that she also had died a lot of times? Although I'm not sure what circumstance is she in but between my situation of being a 'meal' every single night, I have no time to take care of other people problems. From now on I will call my revive ability as 'Gullveig' as I share the same situation as her.

I am able to work in this kitchen because I am blessed with this ability. But it's not that great because my

‘Gullveig’ have one condition, that is: I can only be revived once per day. This is the reason why there is another me inside the cooking pot.

Actually inside the pot is a special creation by me which is called ‘Eldhrimnir’. This is created by putting the necessary ingredient in the pot and after the moon had risen, it will automatically be cooked which is a very convenient ability.

That is not the only specialty of the pot. The pot had been blessed with a mysterious magic which is “As long as the moon is up on the sky, the food inside the pot will never decrease”. You can eat as much as you can before dawn.

Normally I am only able to serve to fit a few people’s dinners but due to the magic, I can serve a large amount of people. In addition to my ‘Gullveig’ ability, every dinner is able to settle without any problems.

Before I arrived in ‘Valhalla’, there had been a lot of livestock sacrificed every night up until now. This makes me feel like I am a perfect unlimited ingredient. It could be said that my shoulder loin is responsible for

solving any food shortage that ‘Valhalla’ faced, which is what I though.

“To be frank, Sei-kun, how are you today? If you are not feeling well, you could go rest. If there is no problem, I would like to ask you for some help?”

“I’m fine; I will go work now. I was just halfway done transferring the dessert; I need to finish it.”

“It’s okay. I will ask someone else to handle it. Actually the thing is, I would like you to go find Hayes[3]. Since the mead have not been delivered yet.”

“Understood. I would go find her now.” To the me who is dying, no, the me who had died once, I have another duty as to make sure that there is no problem for the dinner.

Other than the meal, there is one more thing that the banquet must never ever not have – that is the drink which is also the alcohol. Especially in this banquet the alcohol that must be served is the mead from Hayes which is recognized as the most delicious mead in all the world from Yggdrasil.

To describe how delicious it is, other than Bowenwang, the God community number one customer, Lord Odin would not touch any other alcohol. But after he had tasted the mead, it caused him to drink the mead more than Bowenwang and this is how delicious it is.

This amazing mead do not need use a long time to create when compared to Bowenwang, this is because it actually comes from a young girl which keeps flowing out like a spring. Wait this is not the correct way to put it. In 'Asgard', there are a few animals including me that can use the power of rune to transform to a human form. Similar like me who is a boar, she is actually born as an animal. She, Hayes, is actually a goat.

It seems like I just arrived at her workshop.

'Ding Dong', 'Ka-cha'

"Hayes, how is the situation of the meaaaaaaaaad!!!!??"

"Who is it? Ah, Sei-kun, it's you, do you need anything?"

“That is my line!!! Why are you naked and you are also in your human form?”

“Hayes can also change? To human form?”

“I am not talking about this! Won’t there a lot of problem because you know the mead is from your um….. b…bre….breast!!”

The mysterious white fluid that squeezed out from the nipples is the true identity of the mead. Before this, I remember that she squeezed out the mead in her goat form but if it was done in the human form……. Just imagining it gave me a perverted feeling. I wonder if this is because my mind-set as a boar is similar to a human.

“Is there any problem for me to milk it in this way?”

“It’s not about whether it good or bad. First it seems perverted……*ahem* Let just forget about it! Then how is the effectiveness of milking in human form?”

“Ah….It seems that the milking is a bit slower in the human form and it’s not very effective. Recently Hayes keeps doing it in this way though.”

“Eehh!! This is the first time I heard of this! Why are you doing it in this way?”

“The guys from the underlings said that by doing it in this way, the mead would be more delicious. In term of feelings.”

“By underlings you mean the Einherjars? They said that? Damn those guys! Hayes, you must not trust what they say so easily!”

“Actually …… Lord Odin also requested for it to be done in such a way.”

“That pervertED old man!!” It’s no good, even though he is not around, I cannot believe I just said some foul language toward the Lord Odin. Oh…. Lord Odin, please forgive me……

“I don’t care! Please don’t do it in this perverted way anymore! In term of my feelings!”

“Feelings again?” Hayes who felt confused rested her shoulder and gave a sigh. It’s okay even if she is confused. This is because in her human form, she has long light pink hair and a body of a young girl. In addition, she has big breasts! Do you understand what it means? This is the so call big breasted loli. Actually just by standing here is already a crime, if someone

saw that she is secretly doing this kind of things. There is a high chance that she will be captured and lockup by perverts forever. This is why there must be a real gentleman like me who can protect her.

“Sei-tan, thank you for worrying about me.”

“That is obvious. Doesn’t my appearance look like a gentleman to you?”

“As thanks, let me treat you to some fresh mead.”

“Is it really okay? I am so happy; I only drank a few drop to experience the taste only. It feels like a dream for me to be able to drink the first batch of the fresh mead.”

“That’s great, please help yourself.” After that was said, to suit my 60 centimeter height, Hayes kneel down and put her breast in front of my eyes.

“Um… What am I supposed to do?”

“Please drink it directly from the nipple. This is because once it’spoured into the cask, the odor from the cask will be mixed with the mead which is why this is the best way to drink it directly from the

nipple…… said by Lord Odin."

"That SUPER PERVERTED old man!!" Ah, not good, once again I use such foul language….. Lord Odin, I beg for your forgiveness again, let just say that I won't be able to respect you anymore.

After successfully getting the precious mead, I delivered the cask of mead to the kitchen. "Thanks for your hard work! Wait, Sei-kun why are you the one doing the delivery! I just asked you to help check on her situation only, you can leave the delivering to the others."

"It's okay, I sort of used to doing this already."

"Are you sure you really don't mind about it? Since you are so motivated…. Just put the mead at that side…. By the way Sei-kun, did something happen? It seems that the milking speed is very slow recently."

"A…. that is because…… there is some feeling problems, I guess. It will recover starting from tomorrow I think.

"Are you sure? That fine…..ei? *Sniff Sniff* Sei-kun, why

do I smell the scent of the mead from your body. Don't tell me that you secretly drink some when you are delivering it?"

"Impossible! This is the precious mead you know? How could I possible do these kinds of rude things like drinking directly from the cask?"

That right, I swear to god that this is true. This is… it isn't bad for me to respect Lord Odin a bit more right… which is what I though.

"Actually Chef Head, there is something more important than this. How was the meal?"

"Eh? Hehe, you will see it in a moment. As you can see all the dishes have already prepared. Now it just left for us to welcome the Einherjars and their toasts by using the mead glass.

"The knives and forks are arranged in a very neat way."

"That is of course. Today we have change our menu, the menu for today is a thing called a full western style course meal. It seems like it might be too elegant for

those heroes whose brain is full of muscle."

That is correct, compared to the previous Viking style (buffet), it might seem not so appealing for the menu today. Well there are days where the chef is quite dedicated in their cooking ..... And I am just a trainee.

"It seem like they have arrived while we were just chitchatting. Sei-kun, aren't you going to look for Brynhildr-sama? This is the only time where you have the chance to talk to her."

"Ha ha! How can I be the one who goes find her voluntarily?"

"How could you say that? I don't think she will mind these kinds of things. Why don't you hurry up and go talk to her before they pour the mead?"

"That right.... Then I will go find her."

I used a disgusted feeling to glance back at the Chef Head who's looking at my butt, while hurrying to the pantries which is just beside the kitchen. Inside there are nine females, who are surrounding the mead cask on the cart which I just delivered.

They are the female goddess, the Valkyries who descend to the human realm and soar the battle field, leading the souls of the dead heroes toward Valhalla is their job. If Lord Odin gave the order, they are allowed to join the battle to interfere with the fate of the heroes, which is to kill the hero that they desire directly. These are the type of shady job that they do.

Even though they already have a very important and dangerous mission but during the night they have another type of task. It is to serve the Einherjars mead.

The so called Einherjars are the dead heroes that were gathered by the goddesses. Each individual of the Einherjars is talented in martial arts and they received medals from the battles and wars in the mortal world.Thus, most of them are very proud of themselves. Moreover, they have more pride now compare to when they were living because of the invitation to 'Valhalla'. Some of them even treat the goddess as a servant.

"I really wonder if you still remember who brought you guys up here. This banquet is done due to the

goodwill of everyone here" I unconsciously spoke my dissatisfaction out.

At this moment, all the goddesses turn around after hearing my voice.

"Who is it?" The first to spoke out in a stern voice is the eldest of all the nine Valkyrie, Brynhild who is wearing a cyan color amour. Ah, as usual today she is so beautiful and adorable…. That's not it, I have to respond immediately!

"Please hold on! It's me, Sæhrímnir!"

"Sæ? Ah, Sei-kun. I'm sorry if I startled you."

After knowing that the voice of the suspicious person was mine, Brynhild-sama sheathed back her sword and her facereverted back to a gentle smile. The others gave out a sigh of relief and their expression also calmed down.

"Are you doing the preparation for the toasting?" I simply asked. Of course, I just want to have a conversation with Brynhild-sama alone only but this is impossible as this place is so crowded.

“The preparation is almost done. Haha, although I always said this but I still feel that this is very troublesome…”

The one who answer me is the sixth sister, Helmwige-sama who is wearing a brown color armor and have a shoulder length purple color hair with the appearance as a young girl. Even though she looks like most childish out of the nine sisters, the way she speaks is similar to those elder persons. And the most shocking thing is, she might look like a young girl but she is the strongest out of all the sisters.

“Sei-kun, let put this aside. Why do I feel like the menu for today is different from the usual? What happened actually?”

Using unhappy eyesight to stare at me is the seventh sister, Siegrune-sama. Her body is wrapped in blackarmor with a blonde twin tail and elongated eyes that leave a deep impression to people. Even though I did not talk much with her before, but it is very easy to notice that she is a tsundere.

“Well…. This is all decided by the Chef Head. Today,

we are serving the famous thing which is the full western style course meal. Thus, everyone is busier compare to usual, if possible, do you mind if I help you in the mead part?"

"Huh? We don't need your help and since you have already completed your own mission, you should just relax without doing any extra things."

"Is that so? I am sorry for worrying you."

"Why are you thinking like that? Who worries about you! I just thought that you might be tired after being entrusted with the simple yet important task…. Wait… I said that because I just don't want you to cause as any trouble when you are so tired! Just to make this clear, I am not worrying about you or anything, okay!"

Siegrune-sama keep talking while she is blushing and filling the jug with mead quickly. Ah, this is really the typical tsundere routine.

The banquet is going to start soon, there is no point for me to stay here if my help is not needed. It would be better if I leave than interrupting them when they are working. The moment when I turn around and leave –

“Ah, Sei-kun. Please hold on.”

There was someone behind me who requested me to stay. The owner of the voice is none other than my idol Brynhild-sama.

“Yes, is there any matter?” My heart keeps beating when I asked

Brynhild-sama walked toward me and bend down and while blushing, she whispered to my ear: “Um.. I want to ask, are you free tonight?”

“Of course I am free!” Is this real, an invitation at night! It is so AWESOME!

Every day, I practiced on answering different kind of situation just to hope that there will be an invitation like this one day. Finally, after waiting for so long, I finally have a chance to say it!

“Are you really free tonight? It seems like you responded quickly.”

“I am really free! I will even make myself free if I’m not free! Even if Lord Odin want to hold an emergency meeting tonight, I will also make myself free!”

“You can’t just absent from that, it’s serious.”

“Ah, yes.” She is being so serious which is also one of her merit.

“Then Sei-kun, after the banquet ended, can you come over to my room?”

“Brynhild-sama’s room?”

Wow, this is something impressive. Who would have thought that I am being invited to the sacred zone, the hall of the goddess, ‘Vingólf’!

“I will inform the situation to the beloved horse, Grani-kun. Please find him so that he can guide you to my room. I will see you later then.”

After saying that, Brynhild-sama pated my head and leaved. She took the jug from the youngest sister, Rossweisse-sama and waved toward me before heading toward the big canteen.

“No nonono, this is really something amazing….” Due to the over shock and over excitement, it seemed like I

was floating and like this I floated back to the kitchen. After seeing me in this state, the Chef Head showed a worried face for no reason.

“What happen, Sei-kun? Don’t tell me your heart got broken?”

“What are you talking about Chef Head? I have a very happy face with a big smile!”

“How could I even know the expression of a boar? But if you can laugh, that means something good just happen right? That is very good, you should be happy on my advice right. It’s all thanks to me that gave you the final push to talk to her.”

“It is as what you said. Thank you very much, Chef Head. If you need any help in the future, do not hesitate to ask me for your help. I will be very grateful to give you the push that you needed.”

“That is not what I meant but… oh well, since you put it that way, I will be grateful for that push.”

I would not mind as long as I am able to repay the debt. Overall, our job as the kitchen staff is finished for

tonight. To relieve my eyes, I went and look at the cute Valkyrie-sama with their work for a short while. After that, I went back to my own room for a short rest while waiting for the promise time with Brynhildr-sama.

Even though I am used to it, but being resurrected still wear me out.

After a few hours, when it was almost late at night, I jumped out from the bed. Even the continuous noise from the banquet became silent during my nap.

“Let see now. Ah, it almost the moment of the full moon.”

By looking toward the dark sky from the window, the replacement for the time system in ‘Asgard’, the moon, will became a full moon soon. Brynhildr-sama should be heading back to her room by now.

I heard from the Chef Head whom was born in the human realm, ‘Miðgarðr’, that the moon in ‘Asgard’ is very special in the perception of the Chef Head. This is because in ‘Miðgarðr’, it takes a whole month for the moon to complete it lunar phase while it only takes a night in ‘Asgard’.

The so called sunset at 6pm in the human realm is handle by the Moon God, Mani-sama that begin as a New moon state, by putting his hand up toward the sky, the moon start to change. First is the Waxing Crescent moon, First Quarter, and then it will become a Full moon, Second Quarter, Waning Crescent moon and finally it will disappear as the New moon. When it is almost 6am, it will be the Sun Goddess, Sola-sama who will bring in the sun to take over the moon role.

By following a fix and correct set of regulation, there is a non-stop cycle for the day and night, this is the routine for the world that do not have any seasons.

“Okay. Let’s go!”

To the me who was just reborn, it is unnecessary for me to check my appearance. Moreover, I could not even comb my hair alone.

After coming out from my room, I walk toward to the top part of ‘Valhalla’ in the world tree, Yggdrasil. My destination is ‘Vingólf’ but it is a foolish act to walk toward there.

For your information, ‘Valhalla’ is actually a very big

place, it would take me around two hours for me to run a lap on the outer side even if I try my best. Even if I managed to walk out of 'Valhalla', there is still the land of the palace, 'Gladsheim'. Moreover, 'Vingólf' is located on outside of 'Gladsheim'....

If I depend on my legs only, it will take more than a night to reach there. Even though it quite big and the style is quite nice, but the scale is too large and it very inconvenient. This inconvenience can be solved easily by using Yggdrasil. To be more precise it is the 'void' that can be found on the trunk of Yggdrasil.

In the void of the world tree, there is a rainbow color glow that could be found and it is known as the 'Rainbow void'. It is the smaller version of the bridge that connect the human realm with the god realm, 'Bifröst'. So, it means that by entering into this light, I am able to teleport to other places of the god realm.

But.... by using the 'Rainbow void' it is something like a one-way ticket as I cannot use this method when going back. So it is your own responsibility if you want to use this, thus do not forget about this thing.

“It’s fine, as long as I can go there anything is fine. Who know, I might be able to stay over there… Hehehe.” I could not believe that my brain is tainted until this point.

All I have to do is just think of the name of the place I want to go in my mind and step inside to the “Rainbow void”.

“! ……..? Yes, I managed to reach the place! It is very successful even though it my first time to use it.”

I close both of my eye due to the daze from the teleportation, when I open my eye, the sight in front of me is a golden palace is more glamorous and sacred than the ‘Gladsheim’. During my first visit to ‘Gladsheim’, I actually look at this palace – the secret garden of the goddess living area ‘Vingólf’.

“In..Inside here is where Brynhildr-sama could be found. Not only Brynhildr-sama, the other goddess also here. There is also the super idol goddess, Freya-sama who is doing those kind of things ….!!”

The place is actually an area where males are restricted to step in, a forbidden area that could not be

trespass. The moment I step in here, I feel like my immoral and superiority is attacking me in the inside. Don't laugh, Sæhrímnir, this is the moment to show your gentleman spirit. Calm down, take a deep breath…. This is impossible! There is a sweet fragrance that flowing toward me in the outside of the building! Argh, I need to be calm, my heart is beating very fast. After it have calm down, the moment when I try to sneak in secretly,

"Hey, what are you doing here!"

"Ah! I am sorry, I am sorry, I was just possessed by my immoral!"

"Ha? A grey boar… that mean you are 'Sei-kun'?"

"Yes…. do you know me?"

"I heard a lot about you from Brynhildr-sama."

After hearing the name that I am pondering about, I open my eye wide and look at him. Grey body with golden hair, both strong and vigorous four legs. I understand now, he is ….

"Grani-kun ?"

“Is the ‘kun’ really necessary? Well, I don’t mind anyway.”

Grani-kun felt a bit shy and turned his face away. He is the beloved horse of Brynhildr-sama, his father is regarded as the world number one famous horse, ‘Sleipnir’. I couldn’t believe that I was able to meet such an amazing horse in such a close distance.

“Sei-kun, you came here today to meet my master, right? Let me lead the way, so don’t just stand there like a fool.”

“Ah, thank you and sorry for the trouble.”

I needed to run a bit to catch up with Grani-kun who was just walking normally. Due to the distance between our steps is too big, it made me tired just to catch up with him.

“Actually Grani-kun, I am surprise that you sense my presence there.”

“Ah? Of course I am able to sense it because you are in front of the entrance.”

“That’s correct but I had tried my best walking as

silently as I could to remove the sound of my footsteps! Like those assassins."

"It's true that you were able to eliminate the sound but if you kept breathing heavily like that, you wouldn't be able to be like those assassins. You are more like a pervert instead."

Why didn't I notice that I was behaving in such a disgraceful way? Ah, what had happened to my gentleman spirit...

"At first I thought that a suspicious person had appeared so I tightened up my guard. Next time please breathe normally, okay? Okay, Sei-kun, we have arrived. This is my master room."

"Thank you, Grani-kun! Um... I would prefer if you just called me by my name without any honorifics."

"If you don't like it, then I can change it. I called you that's because my master also called you that way, so I unconsciously also did the same."

"It's not that I don't like it. It's just that it's much more convenient if you called me by my name instead."

“Then I will just leave it to my own preference then. Sei-kun, I actually quite bored about hearing things about you from master. Do you what does this mean?”

“Um… not really?”

“Then to be direct, I think she has a thing for you. This fact makes me feel a little bit of jealous toward you.”

“Ah, you don’t have to praise me that much, everyone also said that I am very juicy.”[4]

“I’m talking about jealous! I think that is normal that you are being praise that much! Anyways, what I want to said is you better don’t betray my master on the task that she entrusts you with. Then, I will leave it to you now.”

Grani-kun had a very serious look when he warned me. I sincerely answered him while gazing at his eye that was trying to see through my eye which is honest and full of resolve:

“If there is anyone who’s willing to place their trust on me, I rather choose death than betraying their trust. To be frank, my life is lose once every night so it can be

said that it a cheap price to pay."

"Not a bad resolve. At first I just thought of you as a pervert, but now I finally understand why my master is so interested in you now."

"So you understand now? The gentleman spirit that flows out from me is the secret to my charm."

"Ha, is that my misconception? Well there is no harm in this type of air-headed person. Your charm is not the gentleman spirit, it is the courage to offer yourself every single night. I believe that you are very amazing because that type of courage is something that no one is able to learn."

Grani-kun walked away in a cool manner after saying that with a monotone voice. Great! I think I managed to get a passing mark from Brynhildr-sama beloved horse. This made me feel proud of myself. I am able to settle down now compared to the first moment when I arrived at this 'Vingólf'.

I believed that there would be no problem now and I also have..... the gentleman spirit! No, I think just now the spirit has not appeared but not it has! This must be

the truth!

Ding Dong

“Brynhildr-sama, sorry for disturbing you so late at night but it’s me, Sei.”

“Oh, Sei-kun. Please hold on.”

There’re footsteps walking toward the door on the other side and slowly the door opens. From the gap of the door, the blonde long hair angel who had taken off her cyan armor and is now wearing a pure white bathrobe, Brynhildr-sama has appear.

“Welcome to ‘Vingólf’. Please don’t hesitate and come in.”

“.....”

I walked inside the room like a newborn deer who just knew how to walk. Ah, it’s not good, comes back faster, my gentleman spirit! Don’t tell me it flown out too much already?

“Bry... Brynhildr-sama, may I know why are you just wearing a bathrobe only?”

“Ah, please forgive me my shameless appearance. I just finishing taking a bath and I thought it would be rude if I let Sei-kun waiting. So I just come to open the door in this appearance.”

“I am grateful for your concern. Are you wearing just a bathrobe for my sake?”

“Ah? Yes, I am wearing just a bathrobe for your sake…..Eh? Why does it sound so weird……..”

Even though it’s a bit late but Brynhildr-sama is slowly feeling shy, her face is becoming bright red.

“Com..compare to this, Sei-kun, thank you for coming here in such a short notice.”

“It was nothing, I can see the breast!! No! I was actually free anyway! So may I know why are you looking for me today?”

“…..Is it wrong for me to invite you over like this?”

Brynhildr-sama said it in a sad tone and both her light purple eyes were filled with tears. Not good, I couldn’t believe that I had said such a misleading sentence.

“That’s not the case! You can invite me anytime for anything, to me just by being with Brynhildr-sama is the most awesome thing that I could ever think of.”

“If you said it like that, I will really invite you out every single night, you know? This is because Sei-kun is…….”

At this point, Brynhildr-sama is holding me tightly and buried her head on my back. She also said a very surprising thing:

“Ah, there is really a very sweet fragrance of fruits coming from Sei-kun body. It smells like an apple yet it also like the smell of grape.”

“Eh, is there really such a fragrance?”

I also didn’t realize this…. I wonder where does this smell come from? Is it because I change to a new body every time I die? Or is it because of the mead that I drank just now? Maybe it’s the result of the exercise that I’m doing just to get popular with girl? No, I think it due to the constitution that I am born with…… this is because even the Einherjar praise that my meat is delicious, I guess this is due to my constitution then.

“Haha, it seems that I enjoy the current situation too much. Um… can I ask for you again if I want to smell this sweet fragrance again?”

“Sure, I also enjoy myself just now.”

“What did you enjoy?”

“That is….. hahaha, let just ignore it.”

I kept the secret about the situation just now where my face was buried in Brynhildr-sama breasts forever.

“Truth to be told, Brynhildr-sama, may I ask whether your invitation for today is just to smell my fragrance only? If it only these type of simple stuff, I would be very happy to come here every day. If possible I would like it to be like that.”

“No, actually it’s not that.”

“Then what is the real purpose……”

It seemed that my evil wish is confirmed by her pure and innocent smile, which caused me to hang my head in shame. Brynhildr-sama hurried waved her hand upon seeing me being listless and explained:

“Um… That is not what I meant, the ‘no’ is about the former question. The reason I invite you here is actually…. After I heard from the Chef Head, And-san, he said that Sei-kun is able to change into a human form. Is that true?”

“Ah, yes. I know how to use the mannaz rune.”

“Mannaz? That is impressive, you can really use the magic of the rune!”

“Hahaha, I only know how to use mannaz.”

“That is already very impressive. Um… to be frank, there is something that I would like to discuss with you.”

Once again Brynhildr-sama corrected her sitting posture, I also follow her and corrected my own posture, so that I won’t get so nervous.

“The matter that I would like to discuss with you is about my sister, the 2nd sister, Gerhilde.”

“Ah, Gerhilde-sama is that prideful, I mean, the spear user lady whose gesture is very elegant?”

Not good, I tried to fix my indiscreet remark after realizing it but seem like it was too late. After hearing that statement, Brynhildr-sama glared at me intensively.

“Eh… Sei-kun that is very rude. Is that how you thought of my cute little sisters?”

“Argh! No, I don’t mean it like that. I am very sorry!”

I groveled down my whole body to express my sincere apology. Ah, this body that is using four legs to walk is very dreadful! This makes groveling down is no different than lying on the ground for me!

I tried to take a peek while being terrified, but it seem like Brynhildr-sama who was overlooking over me burst out a mischievous smile.

Don’t tell me that I was played! But I do not mind because the sharp glare that Brynhildr-sama gave is very impressive!

“Hehe, I am sorry, I play a dirty trick on you without any intention.”

“I don’t mind actually! *cough* But it the truth that I

indeed disgrace Gerhilde-sama."

"That is not a problem. She is really prideful but she is very talented in martial art but she's lacking on the rune magic. It seems that the task that is direct to her alone is not making any progress as she have to transform into a dove…. which is what I heard from the 4th sister, Waltraute. It would be nice if she came and discuss with me but….. I wondered why she is being so hostile toward me."

It seemed as though Brynhildr-sama was looking in a distance and gave a very deep sigh. That expression is also beautiful but a smile is the most suitable for a lady.

"Hostile… Maybe it's not like that."

"Is that true?"

Even though I have only arrived at 'Valhalla' recently, but her behavior is quite obvious. She is actually being treated as a rival instead of an act of hostility.

It's like she knows that there's just a step away but there is always another presence that will be in front

of her forever. There's also the reason that she is unable to respect her sister frankly which caused her to develop such a harsh attitude.

The reason why Gerhilde-sama never depends on Brynhildr-sama is not because she wants to catch up to that shadow but she actually wants to keep chasing after that instead.

I tried to use an expression that looked like I understand everything to explain but it seemed like I would regret it immediately as I talked too much. But it seems that Brynhildr-sama had calmed down and smiled:

"Thank you, Sei-kun. I feel much better now. But even if that is the case, that child will still refuse to listen to my advices. So, I would like to ask if you, Sei-kun to replace me to teach her how to use the transformation rune?

"Me? But I remember that the 7th sister, Siegrune-sama is actually quite skill in rune magic? I think she is on par with Lord Odin on the knowledge of the rune. How about we try to ask for her help first?"

“Well, I did think of this before but she declined me when I went to ask her for help.”

“Why?”

“She said, ‘Why should I go and simply teach the only thing that I can brag about among our sisters to other people?’ ”

“What a weak tolerance!” Please don’t worry, Siegrune-sama, that is because your tolerance level is also one of your features. But I’m not sure whether it’s worth bragging about to other or not. “I understand now, please allow me pre-empt to accept this task.”

“That’s great! Um.. Please keep this a secret from the others….”

“Of course, if she knows that you ask me to help, she will surely reject my teaching.”

Once again Brynhildr-sama bowed down again with an elegant smile. What a polite person… her politeness actually made me feel uncomfortable. A small fry like me only need to be kick to show they are thankful. If I said I want to be kicked, will she be willing to do it.

Maybe I should try it out? I have already accepted her task, and I didn't demand for anything in return.

"To be frank...."

"Yes? No, that was a joke just now, there is no way that I want such a vulgar act as a reward."

"Eh? That not what I mean, actually can I ask you to help me with another matter?"

Brynhildr-sama was a bit shock when she is looking at me. I wonder what happened. Maybe my inner thought just now was heard by her?

"There is no problem, no matter how many requests Brynhildr-sama asks, I will willingly do my best to complete all of it."

"Wah, Sei-kun is really kind. Then.... Can you show me how do you use the mannaz rune?"

"Ah, no problem."

There is no way that I could refuse the request when the lovely lady is looking at me with her eyes filled with excitement. I need to give my very best – because

this is the moment to show off my brilliant transformation magic.

“I worship you the skull of Ymir; Kiss his body. Now I ask for permission to expose the Divine Omniscience sacred matter. Make the color change, let encounter, departure, reconcile and solitary become a reality! The twenty rune of Futhark, mannaz!”

The magic inside me gave off a bright light which lighten up the whole room. Around the moment after my first breath, at the same time in front of me there is Brynhildr-sama with her big round eyes and trembling constantly.

Based on her reaction… this means that the rune had activated successfully. I took out a mirror from my pocket to verify the situation.

My hair which has the same brown color as my body color of the boar form and the appearance of innocence fifteen years old boy, a simple shirt and trouser with no extra decoration…. Perfect, this is the human form.

“What do you think, Brynhildr-sama? This is how my mannaz work.. Eh?”

“Ah, that, um.. no…..”

I wonder what happened. Brynhildr-sama looks a bit weird and she is holding her bathrobe tightly with her ears being bright red.

“Um, are you okay?”

“Please don’t look this way! I’m sorry because…”

Really, I wonder what is happening. I don’t have a messy hair, there is no gum on my eye, and my nose hair is not showing out from my nose, there is nothing sticking on mouth. This should be perfect, this is

exactly what a gentlemen should look like. Ah, don't tell me that I actually a narcissist?

"Well, since I'm not sure what happened but I would like to apologize. I will take my leave now."

"Yes.. I'm sorry, suddenly I just feel very embarrassed ....."

"There is no need to concern about me, please do not force yourself! Then..... I wish you have a very good night." *kacha bam*

Hm... I wonder what is wrong with Brynhildr-sama. Her face looked so red like steam was going to come out....

Don't tell me it's because of that? Is it because my human form is too appealing which caused her to suddenly felt embarrass of her sleeping wear.... Impossible.....

"Oh, is that you, Sei-kun? Why are you in your human state? Are you going back now?"

After I step out from the door, Grani-kun came out from nowhere like he was secretly hiding somewhere

to peek.

“Yes, it’s a pity because I thought I have a chance to stay over for the night.”

“I feel pity for you. Where are you going? Hop on, I will take you back to ‘Valhalla’.”

“Really?”

“Well…. We are friend after all.”

Grani-kun is my friend? A friend of a small fry like me? Is this really?

It seemed like a lie and it also seemed like a reality. This is the first time I make a friend! I did not even have one after I left my hometown.

The reason why I left the forest is due to my idol Brynhildr-sama, but in the end I become an ingredient which has to die every day. Even though I already made my resolve, but it is still something very difficult. Even the occasional luck could not overcome the pain of the death that I suffer.

But I am confined that today is the greatest day in my

whole life. It a good thing that I come to 'Valhalla'....

"Grani-kun, I am very happy."

"..... ah?"

"Is it really? I wish that someday we could be more than just friend."

".....! No, that is a bit...."

Yes, more than just a friend, I want us to become a bosom friend.

Okay, it seemed that I am too motivated already. I need to do my best starting today, I need to try to be able to teach Gerhilde-sama more about rune magic!

Eh? Now that I think of it why am I being entrusted with such an important task? Is it really okay to entrust such an important trust for a small fry like me? Suddenly I feel very worried.

Never mind that then. If it's something that only I could do, I will try my very best to do it!

Chapter 2 - Color of The Maiden Lunch Party

The Moon God, Mani-sama is controlling the carriage with the moon and heading toward the west side of the sky.

Due to the law in the God realm, the caring moon that helps to lighten up the dark sky has to turn back to the New Moon, with this 'Asgard' is shrouded in darkness once again. This will only appear when there is a transition between the day and the night, a single ray of light couldn't be found, but soon the sky will be dyed red by the rising sun.

"Sola-sama, you are early today also...."

After I gave a greeting to the new day with my bleary eyes, I'm ready to get up from bed.

Now that I think of it, Sola-sama needs to wake up very early every day. Ah, there will be a major problem if the Sun Goddess that is carrying the sun overslept.

I don't have any plan to wake up early and I also slept quite late yesterday also, now I still want to remain in the warmness of my bed. But I cannot spoil myself, Sei, since you have already awakened now, you need to get up from bed.

"Okay, let's go. It's time for my morning jogging routine."

With a strong resolve, I drove the sleepiness out from my body and walked out from my room. After getting up from bed, I jog for a lap around the wide 'Valhalla' Area. This is the thing I must do every day after coming to 'Gladsheim'.

The reason why I started to do this routine is quite simple, I already knew earlier that the reason I was invited here was to become a meal. Since, I would be eaten, I want to let everyone enjoys my delicious meat and thus I want to let my meat to be much firmer. Basically, my meat now is only full of fats and it's very far away from a marbled meat that is why my aim is to become a rank five quality meat.

Aah, why am I, as a livestock, so thoughtful toward

those who will dine on me? I don't think there is any other boar that's willing to train themselves so that they could be more delicious when eaten. At the same time, it could also train my manliness and I could also be more fit, who knows there might be a day where I would be l doted by a goddess.

"Hehehe, who knows maybe something like this will happen, 'Whoa! Sei-kun, your leg is so muscular!' 'Yes, do you want to try some?' 'No, how about you try to sample us instead!'."

While this malicious dream that is slowly revealing my disguise, my jogging is going to end, so I dash forward with everything I have.

At this moment.

"Wh…What….?"

When I started to have the feeling that I'm the only one who is jogging alone.

In that moment, there's a gold bullion that flied past me who's dashing in a very high speed. Wait that is not a gold bullion. Even though 'Asgard' contains a lot of

mysterious and unexpected thing, there is no way there'll be a running gold bullion. Then, what is that really.....

Just when I'm thinking about this. The gold bullion uses his hoofs to stop dashingly, leaving a sea of dust. After the dust settled down, there is a boar covered in golden fur standing in front of me.

"A boar? There is other boar other than me in 'Valhalla'?"

It seems like he is much older than me, has a body that is fine even if a person ride on it, a mesmerizing pack of muscle and there are two large fangs that are bigger than its body and seem like it is able to pierce through sky. This is the feature of the boar that is dashingly standing in front of me now.

This is my, no, a dream body that any boar would like to realize. Why is this handsome boar here at a place in this time?

"... So slow."

"Ah?"

The golden boar spoke in a voice of a young man while muttering something. Well based on the appearance it quite obvious that he is not a she.

“You are very slow! For us who are the fastest in this world, you have some shortcomings!”

“You, what are you saying so suddenly! Which part of me am I not good enough?”

“You better listen carefully now, the part that you are lacking which is! Fighting spirit, Guts Physical Strength , Mental Strength, Breathing technique, Form, Sense of Rhythm! And the most important of all is ——YOU ARE SLOW!! Don’t tell me that is all you have? No, that is wrong. Since you are that slow… Are you doing some mimicry practice just now?”

“Mi..mimicry?”

What is wrong with this boar? To be frank that was me running with everything I have, and he put it like I was doing some practice to be one with the surrounding. How rude can he be! I cannot laugh this one off like nothing happen even thought I am a very kind person.

“Ah? You managed to see through my action? It’s like what you said, I am doing some mimicry practice.”

“What! Didn’t you jog just now?”

“Of course it’s jogging! What is wrong with you, you already know that I am not doing any practice of mimicry! Why are you saying such lie? Didn’t anyone teach you that lying is the first step of becoming a thief?

“Such a disgrace…”

“I will forgive you this time but you should stop with this silly lie. I will leave now.”

“Yes, I am really sorry….. Wait, why am I being the person who is wrong!”

At the moment when I prepare to turn my body and leave, this golden boar run around to face me while panting. Ah… did he realize it now? I can’t believe that I managed to cheat him so easily, it seem like he is a simple-minded person.

“That …. Who are you actually? This should be the first time we met right?”

“That’s right, this is the first time meeting you. BUT! Didn’t anyone teach you that you should introduce yourself before asking the name of others?”

“Fine then.”

“Wait! I am ‘Gullinbursti’…. Hehehe. Have you ever heard of this majestic name before?

“Don’t tell me you are! One of the six masterpieces that was created by the Dwarf!

“Ha,ha,ha! They all said that.”

“Oh, I understand.”

“Eh? That, um…. if it’s possible could you praise me more.”

“Well that’s what everyone else said too!”

“Sorry, I was just too excited so I would like to hear more.”

“Can you try not to let your excitement overcome you until you talk without thinking about it?”

“I am so ashamed of myself…”

Haha… and he said I got some shortcomings, it seems like he doesn't have enough dignity himself. Is this troublesome fellow really 'Gullinbursti'?

"Gullinbursti is a golden shiny boar and one of the six masterpieces by the Dwarf which is well known for their forging skill, right? He belongs to the god of harvest, Frey-sama right, the one that able to run faster than anyone whether on land, sky or water."

"Yes that is me who is standing on the peak of all boar…I mean standing on the peak of all biological being except god. I am that 'Gullinbursti'!"

"Whoa, you're so amazing! You are formidable! You are so cool."

"What happened? It feels like you didn't put in any feeling when you said those. Don't tell me that you are actually my fan, since you managed to describe me in such detail?"

"It's not like that actually! I just sometime researched about the six masterpieces at my home before."

"So that's the case huh. Then let me ask you, among

the six masterpieces which do you prefer the most?"

"Ah, it's Slíðrugtanni because don't you think the name sound very cool."

"I see. Actually that's my other name."

"EH!!"

What an embarrassing thing have I done, I can't believe that I went and do something that only a hard core fans will do! This make me look I am a super fans of him! The past me is really stupid, if I wanted to be an idler I should've learnt from those idler, then I wouldn't be in this mess already....

"What are you doing here, lursti? Eh? Ah, doesn't this voice belong to ...."

When I was regretting, there was a girl voice that I've never heard before came from behind us. I turned around in a shock and there was another dazzling boar covered a silver fur. Why is there a sudden increasing of boar rate in 'Valhalla'?

"Why are you shaking so bad, little one? Don't tell me lursti is bullying you?

This silver boar seems like she is a close friend of Gullinbursti and she treated me so nice. But I cannot judge other boar so easily.

“Please don’t call me little one. I am also a ‘human’.” *Kacha* Like that, I activated the rune of mannaz.

“I am around 15 years old when I am in my human form.”

“…., then I am very sorry about this, I hope you can forgive me, but.” *Kacha* She also change into a human form. Is this also the rune of mannaz? Don’t tell me….

“I’m actually 18 years old when I’m in my human form. This makes me your older sister due to the age difference! Nyahaha!”

She happily patted my head. Dammit, there is only a difference in age and it seems she’s also a bit taller than me, this is my complete defeat.

“I give in, my dear sister. Please continue to look down on me then.”

“No, I actually don’t have that kind of interest. But I do like how honest you are. Nyahaha, what is your name,

little one?"

"I am Sæhrímnir."

"Se what? I will call u Sei-kun then. By the way, I am known as 'Hildisvíni', you can call me Hildi. There is one more important thing! You don't have to be that shy around me, I'm not that strict actually. Even though I just act like your sister, but don't call me that anymore. NICE TO MEET YOU!" After she said that, she showed a very energetic smile and stretched out her hand.

Ah, even though it's different from the first impression, after having a short talk, she is actually a very kind and caring girl that made people feel comfortable around her.

Her human form is also not bad, she had folded her long silver hair at the back of her head. It looks like cat ears when seen from the front. A wheat-coloured healthy and energetic skin could be seen from the small opening part of her clothes. I would have fallen for her if I hadn't met Brynhildr-sama first.

"It should be me who said that, Nice to meet you too,

Hildi. It's also nice to meet you too, Gullinbursti."

"I... since you are also one of ours, it's not like I will not take care of you or anything. BUT Sæhrímnir!! I will not simply use your nickname to call you!

He also transformed in human form while shouting and pointed his finger at me.

Hee, look like he transformed into a guy who has bristling short blonde hair and wears sunglasses.

Including my parent and Hayes, it seem that everyone who uses the rune of mannaz to transform have different appearance based on their appearance. Who knows, it may be due to the selfishness of us when we thought that 'It would be nice if I am also a human'. It seems there is still a lot to learn from the rune magic.

"I want to ask whether both of you are living in 'Valhalla'? This is the first time I met you since I arrive here one month ago, where did you guys come from?"

I asked them the question I've been wondering for quite some time. After they looked at each other, Gullinbursti took a step and answered.

“Where did we come from… this is a slightly hard question to answer. As you have known, I work together with Frey-sama but after we’ve obtained Skíðblaðnir, we usually don’t stay at a single place for a long time.”

“Ski…bra[5]? Eh, don’t tell me this is some kind of pervert talk?”

“You fool! Skíðblaðnir! It is one of the six masterpieces created by the Dvergr which is a magic ship that has the ability to freely change its size! Ahem… As long as we have that, it could be said that the sky of all the world is Frey-sama courtyard.” So, the answer to your question is: we are from the sky. Lately, the place that we are staying is the sky of the Land of the Fairies, ‘Álfheim’.”

“Hee, the Land of the Fairies. Then why did you purposely come all the way to ‘Valhalla’ from there?”

“Oh…, actually the reason why we’re going to ‘Álfheim’ is actually part of a mission. We have to retrieve the ‘Victory Sword’ which we ask the Dvergr smith, Wayland. Actually that sword is the key to

suppress the ‘Ragnarok’ and we come to ‘Gladsheim’ to report to Lord Odin on this matter.”

“The sword that can suppress ‘Ragnarok’ ….”

“‘Ragnarok’ is actually Armageddon which was foreseen by Lord Odin’s uncle, the wise giant, Mimir. We have no idea what is that and there is no specific information on in… we only know that there will be a rebellion lead by the enemy of god, “Jötunn”.

So the reason why Lord Odin gathering the Einherjars is to prepare for ‘Ragnarok’, I didn’t know that this kind of sword exists…

“Isn’t this an amazing feat, Gullinbursti? With this, there will be peace right?”

“Hahaha! Of course! As long as we have the Victory Sword, the glory of the God will not be shaken. With this, we can fire those annoying Einherjars.” He made a proud snort when he finished talking.

Ah… fired those Einherjars? In other words, me as the meal of those Einherjars will also be fired!

“You stupid boar, look at what you have done!!”

“Huh? Why do you hit me all of a sudden?” Gullinbursti was touching his face and ask while he was trembling.

On another side, Hildi pick up the sunglasses that fell off and with a forced smile patted my shoulder and said:

“Well, try to calm down. Lursti have no ill intention when he said that. From the reaction that Lord Odin showed when we reported this matter to him, it seem like he won’t be firing those Einherjars so easily.”

“Rea..Really? Ha, that’s a good news then. Ah, then Hildi what brought you to ‘Valhalla’?”

“Well, I am actually the servant of Freya-sama. When Freya-sama heard that her beloved brother has finally come back to ‘Asgard’, she said that she wanted to go find him no matter what and like this we came here. I also heard that there is a new boar that came to ‘Valhalla’ so I and Lursti decided to come and take a look. That is you right?”

She pointed at me while wearing the sunglasses she picked up. So this is the reason why both of them came

to ‘Valhalla’ together.

…..Wait? Based on what she said, Freya-sama is nearby!

“May I ask the location of Freya-sama at this moment?”

“Eh? Ah. Freya-sama is at the… um… in the ‘Valaskjalf’ hall of Lord Odin palace… no, I mean behind.”

“Behind? Where is the behind you are talking about?”

“Behind is behind. Turn to your right.”

I don’t know why but I quickly turned in the direction that Hildi mention as if obeying an order. After I made a 180° turn and in my sight, there is a young goddess with brown long straight hair that stretches to her back, wrapped in a bright green dress that is similar to the small leaf of Læraðr. She’s likes her brother, Frey-sama is also a fertility goddess while governing over beautiful and love, the idol queen, Freya-sama.

“Hah! Fre…fre…fre.”

“Ah! What happen to you, are you okay?”

Freya-sama saw that I was having difficulty breathing due to the sudden impact, quickly ran over and gently rubbing my back. I am so touched that I won't mind if I die ten times now.

"I… I… I am fine! Please don't continue soiling your hand!"

"It's not that dirty also. Hildi-chan, don't tell me this is the kid from the rumor?"

"Yes, it is what you have said, Freya-sama. He is the rumor boar that is able to resurrect, the Sa…sa.., the Sei-kun that is known among his colleague."

Wu…. It seemed that Hildi cannot remember my full name yet. I wonder why she suddenly spoke in a polite way. Maybe she is acting nice in front of Freya-sama.

"Ah, Sei-chan"

"Yes! Please order me anything, Freya-sama!"

"Can you undo your rune of Mannaz?"

"Sure."

After I replied Freya-sama, I quickly undo the

transformation rune. After a flash of light, I turn back to my usual boar form.

“Ah! It’s so cute! And so small!”

“!!”

The moment I turned back to a boar, Freya-sama suddenly hugged me tight. Ah… it felt so comfortable. At this moment, threats such as malicious desire and obscenity imagination which can harm my gentleman spirit have been purified.

…Ah, but I'm feeling a lot of pain! No good, if this goes on, I would be drowned in her breasts! Freya-sama you are putting in too much power!

What should I do now? Should I surrender myself? But if I try to struggle now, it might be mistaken as an act of touching the breasts and my life will be over. Brynhildr-sama will also look at me like I'm one of those dirty pig….eh? Wait, that is not a bad idea also… No, I cannot accept that idea! I need to quickly escape from here even if I have to let my gentleman spirit become a demon!

I need to escape quickly from here…Ah, it's too late, I feel like my consciousness is fading away…..

"I….. I give up….."

"Ah! What happen, Sei-kun? Why are you not breathing, Sei-kun? Please hang on there!"

From my ear, I heard the lament of an angel-like voice, at the same time my consciousness is fading away quickly.

Up to now, I have already died countless of time that no one can beat me..... Well, I think that dying in this way is also not bad.

When I regained my consciousness that was summoned to heaven, I was lying on a bed in my own room. When I opened my eye, I saw Hayes in her goat form and was squeezing the mead out of her body.

“Hayes? What are you doing?”

“Ah, Sei-tan, you have been resurrected?”

“No, I won’t die in this way actually. I just lose my consciousness only.”

Well it’s not something strange because I was too occupied enjoying the ultimate pleasure that I didn’t have time to think of escaping..... It seems I really have to punish my gentleman spirit again today. ... If only I am able to do that.

In front of me who is regretting, Hayes is skillfully

squeezing out the mead from the nipples. The jug was filled to the brim with delicious mead.

“Here you go, the freshly squeeze mead. Please drink it slowly.”

“Ah, thank you Hayes. I will drink now.”

Drinking sound Delicious! One more! …. Haha, it seem that I am being too luxury.

“May I know why you are in my room, Hayes?”

“Um… that fake Sei-tan is carrying Sei-tan… so I help them to lead the way.”

“Fake Sei-tan?”

“A golden shiny boar and a silver shiny boar. The real Sei-tan looks very misery right?”

“….Ah, Haha, Hayes is really an honest girl….”

If there’s any other than Hayes who said this, I will tie them with an anvil and throw them to a river

So seem like it was Hayes who helped Gullinbursti and Hildi carry the unconsciousness me back to my room. Maybe I should thank them later, I also need to thank

Hayes as well.

“Hayes, I want to thank you for guiding them to my room.”

“You’re welcome, are you fine on your own now? If so then Hayes will go for her breakfast.”

“Ah, let go together then. Let ask the Chef Head to join us as well.”

“! *nod*”

The moment I mention Chef Head when we step out of the room, Hayes droopy eye suddenly opened wide and kept nodding. Eh, based on her reaction I have understood it. This is because it was a love in first sight with the Chef Head when she first came to ‘Valhalla’.

Unlike me, Hayes is being on the offensive side but Chef Head is too blunt to notice it. He kept saying excuses such as ‘different race’ and ‘opposite to the rule of society’. Even among the Einherjars there is the existence of a secret fan club that worship big breasted loli, honestly I have no idea what is he not satisfied with.

Maa~ I won't be able to respect him if he actually laid his hand on a young girl.

"Okay, Hayes, we have arrived at the Chef Head room. Look like he hasn't wake up, can you go wake him up…. Eh? Hayes, what's the matter?"

Hayes is dropping her head and there is no response when I was taking with her. While I was think what happened, she suddenly activated the human transform of the rune mannaz. She announcement calmly after carrying the expression of over thinking:

"Sei-tan…. Hayes, doesn't have any confidence that she will remain calm after entering."

"E.. You can't do that you know? You must use a healthy and proper way to wake him up."

"I cannot do that."

"Please think of another way!"

"No, I have something to inform you while I am still staying calm. Freya-sama leave a message for you– 'Let have lunch at 'Vingólf' today.' Will you be able to stay calm when you're having lunch?"

“I can’t.”

Using my answer as an excuse, Hayes opened the door with a malicious smile. Of course the door is locked, but she broke the doorknob forcefully and enter the room.

“Woah! What is this, Hayes-kun! Ah, Sei-kun, what the heck happened?”

Chef Head woke up due to the large sound of the destroyed knob and questioned me and Hayes while exchanging look. I reply Chef Head with a surprise yet monotone voice:

“Well, Chef Head did say you wanted to have a massage right? Hayes said she would be willing to replace me to help you with that.”

“Ah…. This is the first time I heard of this. Anyway, Darling…. Which part do you feel stiff? The eye, the shoulder or the waist? Ah, this ‘part’ is so hard.”

“Wait Hayes-kun! That ‘part’ should be hard not stiff, it’s normal for that ‘part’ to be hard because it means the blood circulation is normal …… Ah, please be more

gentle..... Oi, are you leaving Sei-kun! Please help me stop Hayes-kun!"

"Well there won't be any problem even if I don't stop her. Sorry, I already have plan for this afternoon, please allow me to leave first." I said this while quickly walk out through the half-broken door, like this I walked to the canteen alone.

Even though he denied it, I don't think that the Chef Head isn't enjoying the massage that Hayes is giving him, this is the so-call the body is more honest than the mouth. Well, in this way I managed to satisfy Hayes's desire while also repaid my debt to him. This is something like kill two bird with one stone situation. Haha, I am a genius.

Too bad we cannot have breakfast together as plan but this is also for the sake of those two people future. It will be very selfish if I was bothering them so I would have breakfast alone. Ah, the bread today is so delicious!

After having my breakfast, I welcome today lunch with an empty stomach.

For your information, to be able to receive an invitation fearlessly from the No. 2 of 'Vingólf', Freya-sama is an honor that will go down forever in the history and will not be forgotten.

"Then, I guess I will also use the 'Rainbow Void' to go there again right?"

When I was heading toward Ygdrassil, I saw a huge unidentified mysterious animal coming straight toward me from the right hand side of the proud exercise field in 'Valhalla'. That is a bird right? No.... it's a horse!

"Grani-kun!"

"Yo, Sei-san, we've come here to pick you up."

Grani-kun descended toward the ground while his mane fluttering handsomely. Today he has a beautiful maiden as the rider whose body is covered by a cyan dress.

"Good afternoon, Sei-san. I have come to pick you up."

"Br...Brynhildr –sama!!"

This time she is in her normal clothes. And this is also the first time I seen her in this way. Ah, the usual cool and mighty armor appearance is also nice, her appearance that is a bit lewd from yesterday is also not bad but this lovely appearance is the best!

“Come, Sei-san, please come up.”

“Um.. Come, come up…. Haha, where should I sit?”

“Where else? Hehe.”

Grani-kun gentle bite me on the neck who understood it yet still hesitated to do and toss me into the sky. After drawing a parabola, I landed on the Brynhildr-sama knee…. Or I could say her thigh.

“Okay, then let go! Please remember to hold on tightly.”

“Eh! Ca..Can I? Can I really hold tightly?”

“Of course, or else you will fall down.”

“Hahah, that’s right. Then I won’t hesitate…..”

Puni~~

Woah~So soft~ Feels like my whole body is melting.

Since my forefoot is also hoof, I have no choice but to embrace the right thigh with my top half body. I absolutely don't have any malicious plan to enjoy the feel of the holy leg of Brynhildr-sama.

After confirming that I am holding tight, Brynhildr-sama pull the rein, like this Grani-kun slowly takes off from the ground and flys toward the sky. This situation is a bit different from yesterday, when I looked down during the morning sky, the view of 'Asgard' is superb. If I shifted my sight toward the base of this two thigh, I might be able to see something more superb right.....Ahem, my gentleman spirit won't all me to do something that drastic.

.....But sometime my gentlemen spirit treated me very nice. I will be forgiven if I just take a small look right? No, I will not be forgiven! I will forgive myself! Then let me engrave the view that was hidden by the blue mini pleated skirt with both my eye!

"Um... Sei-san."

"Yes, Sorry! I did not see anything yet!"

"Eh? What happen? That, there is one more thing I

want to ask you?"

Eh? Ah, just ask then. You give me quite a fright, I thought that my gentleman spirit inform Brynhildr-sama about the evil deed I wanted to do. Really, it spoiled my ideal.

"Ahem! If I am able to answer it, please ask."

"Hehe, what a gentleman. Um.. Today I also received a lunch invitation from Freya-sama, I was wondering about the relationship between Sei-san with Freya-sama. Ah, it..it's not like there is any hidden meaning."

"Relationship? I just met her for the first time today. I only attended one of Freya-sama concert before, after that I become a fan of Freya-sama. Her cuteness is the sacred treasure of 'Asgard'.. No, the whole nine worlds."

"..... Oh, is that the case. So that why Sei-san face can be so calm."

"!!"

Ah, weird? How did my expression get exposed so easily? I remember Chef Head said before that he

cannot even understand the expression of a boar.

Don't tell me that I am actually showing an expression that looks wretched to the other race! No… let change the perspective. Maybe it's due to Brynhildr-sama constantly monitoring me that allows her to be able to read my expression so easily.

I tried my best to maintain a positive though … but I wasn't sure was it my misconception because it seemed that Brynhildr-sama look a bit unhappy. Don't tell me this is …. Jealously?

Actually there is no need to worry! It's true that I like Freya-sama, the noble Gerhilde-sama also, the mysterious Ortlinde-sama, the sexy Waltraute-sama, the over serious Schwertleite-sama, the carefree Helmwige-sama, the tsundere Siegrune-sama, the natural air-headed Grimgerde-sama, the heroic Rossweisse-sama. True that I like all of them but please believe me that the only one I truly love is you, Brynhildr-sama.

"That not it, Brynhildr-sama. The reason why I feel so calm is because –"

Ah… not good, how should I answer her? I cannot say that the reason is because my body is feeling the warmth of her thighs, then my love, no, my whole life will be over. But I can't just answer "it's because I am with you now" because only handsome guys are allow to use that line.

(What… what should I do now? Ah, there's a way! Okay, then I'll use that!)

"It's because I can stay with my beloved Grani-kun!"

In that moment, both my love and friendship had ended splendidly.

After a few minutes, we reached at our destination, 'Vingólf'. Grani-kun who fetched me, gave me a greeting and flew away using his renowned horse speed.

After the scene where we had Q&A section regarding my lax face, once again I emphasized that's it just on a friendship level with that both of them accepted the situation.

But somehow I felt that Grani-kun had an impression

that he wasn't willing to accept my explanations..... it seems he still misjudges me. Is he preparing to defend against my attack? I won't do that you know? I am a normal straight person.

Ah, let's put that matter aside since Grani-kun is already like that, I actually more curious on the attitude of Brynhildr-sama who's just beside me...

After walking for a short distance since we entered 'Vingólf' with a bit of restless hearts, we reached a large palace door that could be seen from far.

Actually both 'Vingólf' and 'Gladsheim' are similar, their designs are based on a large palace that has a number of palaces inside it. It means that this leads to...

"Sei-kun, we have arrived. This is the place where Freya-sama lives, 'Fólkvangr'

"Oh~ So this is it...."

Woah, the whole place is gold color. This place and the Valkyries dorm which I visited yesterday can be said that it built in such a way to make it look so luxuries.

“The lunch party will be conducted at ‘Sessrymnir’ hall, we still need to walk a bit more. You can ask me to carry you if you feel tired.”

Oi oi! If you put it that way, I will say I am tired even if I am not. Since I need to show that I am fit, I won’t even say so even if you rip off my mouth. Hm…. Should I choose my desire or my honor, this is the most headache antinomy for guys!

Wait, you need to calm down, Sei. There is nothing to be worry about, this is because I don’t have any honor. Then let just choose my desire.

Just hold it a moment, I’m pretty sure that I would be very happy in that lunch party. Then there is no need to fulfill my desire yet, let just walk. It’d better to make myself more hungry right?

After I have settled the headache antimony, in the end I still chose honor.

“I want to ask… are the peoples that we just pass by, Einherjars?

They are female human who wear armor and

patrolling the goddess dorm. I already used to see a scene with a bunch of human in 'Valhalla' but I feel like there is something different in 'Vingólf'.

"It is as you said. The standard for Einherjars here is higher than those in 'Valhalla'."

"Hee..... But seems like all of them are female."

That right, the reason why I feel weird is because all the Einherjars in 'Valhalla' are all male. I thought they wouldn't choose female Einherjars but it seems that all of them are gathered here.

I wonder what she means by higher standard. After noticing my curiosity, Brynhildr-sama answered me while nodding:

"I know what Sei-kun means, I'm also a female, I have no intention to discriminate between the genders.... It needless to say that due to the reason of the body, it a fact that female is a bit weaker in term of martial art when compare to male. The reason why I said the Einherjars in 'Vingólf' is better is because 'they are female'. They are able to become Einherjars because they are able to eliminate many male warriors even

though they don't have much stamina. This is the proof why theirs standard is higher."

"Exactly! Even though it a usual topic that a male is stronger than a female but when faced with a stronger female, even I will be kill within a sec. That why I totally understand what you meant."

"It's good that you understand it. But those are only use to inform strangers only…. The truth is because Freya-sama worried that there will be a lot of troublesome matter happen if the female Einherjars were sent to the male Einherjars in 'Valhalla'.

"Ah… that is also correct. Even though I'm also a male but it's the correct judgment. As expected of Freya-sama, she's really very smart, it seems I might like her more."

"A… Didn't you say you will treat me better….."

"Did you say something?"

"No, I didn't say anything! Ah, Sei-kun, we're here. This is 'Sessrymnir'."

After Brynhildr-sama frantically waved her hand, she

immediately pointed at the door in front.

This is the end of the long and wide corridor and it's also the deepest part of this palace. Without a doubt there's a large space inside it.

"Before we enter the place, can I ask you about something else?"

"I don't mind, what's the matter?"

Brynhildr-sama suddenly requested something from me in front of the entrance of the dream like lunch party. I wonder what's the issue is at this last minute. I couldn't hold my excitement anymore.

The matter that she wanted to say is the important mission she gave me: "Do you still remember last night request? The matter about Gerhilde."

"Ah, yes. Of course I still remember. That is to teach her more about the rune magic right?"

"That's correct, about that… I'm sorry if I'm rushing you ….. But I feel like if you don't take the opportunity to get close to her in this lunch party, I afraid it would be difficult for you to have a chance to talk to her in

the future."

"Ah, you are right...." To be frank, up till now I rarely speak with Gerhilde-sama. It would be impossible for me to suddenly get close to her, so I need to grab the chance during the lunch party or else it would be difficult for me to teach her rune magic.

"Okay, I understand. I'll think of a way to have a conversation with her during the party."

"I'm very grateful to you! I will also try my best to help, let's work hard together!"

After she finished, she hold my forefoot tightly. Ahh..... This is the first time we cooperate together, I must make it a success!

While I was trying to get my spirit up, the decorated door suddenly gave a very deep sound and opened up. On the opposite side of the door, I was welcome by eight beautiful ladies and one goddess. There is a lot of luxuriant food that cannot be found in the non-elegant 'Valhalla'.

"Hi~ Sei-kun welcome to the party!"

“!”

My heart almost exploded the moment I saw Freya-sama smile which dazzled the whole world. It felt like I was affected by the effect of the charm rune inguz, my breathing rhythm is messing up.

“Ah, no, you cannot pass out again like this morning! Breathe in! Breathe out! If this doesn’t work, can someone help to perform CPR on him?”

“Please don’t do that, I will really die! Breathe in, breathe out….. There is no problem now.”

That was dangerous just now, even if I die, I’m able to revive. But if I died in this party now, I don’t think I would be able to face Freya-sama anymore. It’s good that I’m still alive.

“Are you sure you are okay now?”

“I swear to God that I am fine.”

“Oh, that’s good then! Then let me repeat one more time, welcome to ‘Vingólf’! Today we will treat you with the best hospitality, the immortal small boar.”

Freya-sama said that with a kind smile. Ah, let's not said about the god, the smile that can even capture the giants is shown only to me now. To be able to experience such a happy moment…. Something is wrong? I feel like there's something strange happen, why are they treating me so nice today?

Don't tell me this is some kind of a trap…. With this thought, I asked:

"Um… Please forgive me but can I ask a disrespectful question Freya-sama? May I ask why did you invite such a small fly to your palace and enjoy such a luxuries moments?"

Freya-sama tilted her head a bit and answered nonchalantly:

"Is there something weird? Oh, if you want to know the reason, that is because you are a boar. Sei-chan, you know that I am part of the Vanir community right?"

"Yes."

That right, both Freya-sama and Frey-sama are part of

the Vanir community and is totally different from Lord Odin which is part of the Aesir community.

The rivalry between the Aesir and Vanir community that went one for a long time had ended, as proof of the eternity peace, they exchange a few of their member. Of course the Vanir members that entered Aesir are Freya-sama, Frey-sama and their father, Njörðr-sama.

“For us, the Vanir community, to experience a prolific harvest, both pig and boar are sacred animal to us because they are able to reproduce a lot of offsprings. So it’s normal for me to respect you right?”

“I understand the whole situation now. I am very thankful for your explanation.”

“Your welcome, to be frank Sei-chan, you are being too formal! This party is also for you to help you relief. Comes, eat as much as you can! The ladies here will serve you well.”

After Freya-sama said that, the nine Valkyries sisters suddenly surrounded me.

All of them keep feeding me non-stop to help me, in

my boar form, which has difficulty eating. Actually I tried to be a bit moderate but due to their high standard in serving, there's nothing else that I can do. Is this how they serve the Einherjars very night?

"You better be grateful as you are able to be served in such a luxury way by the Valkyries sisters. You should also be better to mark this day as a memorial day and celebrate it every year."

The second sister, Gerhilde-sama with an unwilling feeling closed her eye and kept feeding me while she saying that. She had also taken off her armour like Brynhildr-sama and is wearing the emerald color dress which is the same color as her armor. It seems like she is more noble than usual.

"You are correct. Gerhilde-sama, you can also mark this day as a humiliation day and cursed me every year."

"Ho… it seem like you have some guts to talk back to me. You are quite interesting as a boar."

Ahh? Talk back? Just now that was me saying something serious.

It seem like Gerhilde-sama does not felt unpleasant even though she just received an unexpected answer. I felt a bit relief and gave a signal to Brynhildr-sama.

(How should I expand this conversation?)

I tried using my eyes to send a telepathy message over. After Brynhildr-sama closed her eye and was slightly agitated, she shook her head.

(It'll look weird if you sudden try to expand the topic, let's observe further)

I feel like that's what she's telling me.

After that I kept peering at Gerhilde-sama to look for the opportunity to have a long conversation with her. But her attitude is the same as usual, there's no abnormality.

Well..... If I managed to spot her anxiety or unsecure about her mission, it would be easier for me to have a conversation with her.

"Sei-kun, ah ah..... Sei-kun? What happen? Don't tell me you are full already?"

The ninth sister, Rossweisse-sama kindly rubbed my stomach because she is worried about my slow response while I was in deep thought. Ah, as expected since she is a kind child, I wish she can rub the lower spot.....

No! I must remember what Brynhildr-sama said. If I did not manage to deepen the relationship with Gerhilde-sama during this party, I would be difficult for us to meet in the future.

“Ah, are you full already? Even though you are a boy yet your appetite is so small. Well, it cannot be blame since your head is small.....”

Even though Freya-sama said that, she still shows a troubled face when she saw that there is still a lot of leftovers. No, I cannot make Freya-sama sad but it’s true that I am almost full.... That right!

“It would be a waste if I did not finish all of this delicious food! I will not leave any plate unclean! Hahaha..... activate rune of ‘mannaz’!”

I try to concentrate when I activate the rune magic ‘mannaz’. The rune ‘mannaz’ means ‘human’,

normally it's a rune that transforms a non-human to a human but this rune at the same time can also mean 'harmony'.

The harmony in life which has the ability to understanding each other. With this I have language as a method, I will use this language to have a conversation. But different races have different languages, so it's impossible trying to merge them all together.

Then, all I have to do is to change i, if I want to talk with a dog, I transform into a dog, if I want to talk to a bird, I transform into a bird.

If I want to be empathy with all the living being, all I have to do is complete all the transformation. This is my, the dark brown boar, Sæhrímnir incredible power of the rune 'mannaz'.

"Wh.....What!!"

Everyone was surprise after I complete my transformation. That is of course, because this time I change into a form that is allow me to finish all the leftover food, the huge presence – Dragon.

“Ah, everyone don’t be scared, I just want to finish the food only.”

“It would cause trouble if that was not the case! How were you able to do this?”

Siegrune-sama took a step forward and shouted toward me.

“How? I just use the rune ‘mannaz’ as usual. Oh, everyone can also do it right? I heard it from the trick master of the god community, Loki-sama whose specialty is the art of transformation.”

“It’s possible if it is either a bird or a horse but transform into an ‘Mythical Type’, I’ve never heard of a human being that is able to transform into an ‘Mythical Type’.”

“Oh… is that the case?”

Even though I’m still not sure but since the master in rune magic, Siegrune-sama put it that way, it should be correct. I thought that being able to transform to a dragon it a normal thing since I’m able to do it unconsciously.

(Is transforming to a Mythical Type something that weird? Maybe I should ask Hayes and the other next time.)

Wait, it might be due to my natural talent since I was born.

Well, even if I figured out the reason, I doubt there will be any changes. At most I will have another feature other than my revival ability. I use the long forked tongue to wrap all the food on the plate and after tasting it, I one shot swallow all of them.

“Ho, thank you for the food, it was delicious!”

“Is, is that so?….. Ah, hahaha, I’m glad that you’re happy….”

Eh? Why does it look like Freya-sama is putting up a forced smile? What should I do, don’t tell me that it a failure for me to choose to transform into a dragon?

I quickly transformed back to my boar form and jumped on top of a table, I immediate tried to be gallant toward everyone. But seems like it would be impossible for us to be close to each other again like

how it was before I transformed to a dragon. Looks like Grimgerde-sama is hiding at the furthest pillar toward the back and she does not even dare to show her face.

“Th…That! How does it feel like when you transform into a dragon?”

When I was disheartened, Rossweisse-sama suddenly asked me this question. I don’t know what her intention is but I still answered honestly:

“That, I was able to detect that my magic is being consumed constantly and I am unable to transform for a long time. I also feel that my body is emitting out a lot of power. I have never tried to do combat in my dragon form but I estimated that my combat ability is also quite high. Ah, but I won’t suddenly become berserk! The dragon that I transform has ability to spit poison, so it not the type that is able to breathe fire! So it doesn’t matter because I’m still a very safe person as usual.”

“Ho… in that case… this is very amazing.”

I’m not sure was I able to answer her question but Rossweisse-sama did not follow up with any question

afterward.

Maybe it's due to my misconception but I felt like Rossweisse-sama is admiring me…. While I still hesitate, Gerhilde-sama suddenly asked me another question with no time to think:

"Ho…. I thought you was only a boar with that mysterious ability only, it seem you are quite good in the rune 'mannaz'? Can… Can I just ask, what other type of living beings are you able to transform into?"

The moment that I heard about this question, it seem like there is electric current pass through my brain. I immediately look toward Brynhildr-sama, and she is happily nodding her head while showing me a thumbs up.

This is the long awaited chance that I was waiting for! After I receive Brynhildr-sama 'faster' signal, I answer her normally:

"I am able to transform to anything! If I had to say it, my specialty is to transform into ……. a swan!"

If my eyes didn't deceive me, Gerhilde-sama showed a

happy face.

“Freya-sama, I’m not sure how should I repay you for the lunch party that you prepared especially for me. The food was very delicious, please allow the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’ to make a reference.”

“Is that so? As long as you are happy, I am fine with anything. I will give the recipe for the food today to the Chef Head, Andre. If Andre is able to make the food more delicious, I might come over when I have the time.”

“Then I will wait for the moment you arrive! At that time, please let me be at your side, I will be sure to serve you with all my best!”

“Oh, since you put it in that way, I will wait for that day. You better don’t forget about it? …Okay! I think it’s about time for us to end this party. Who is free to help send Sei-chan back to ‘Valhalla’?

“Ah, please entrust that duty to me!”

The first person that responsed to Freya-sama is none other than, Gerhilde-sama.

“Ah, then I will be in you care, Gerhilde-sama.”

“… I never plan to do it for free, you know?”

“Eh?”

Gerhilde-sama picked me up and whispered toward me so that the others couldn’t hear.

“Because of some matters, after we’ve arrived at ‘Valhalla’, can you teach me how to transform into a swan? No, this is an order! You better not forgot, Sæhrímnir!”

“Yes madam!”

Haha, as expected, her way of talking actually is more suitable toward my behavior.

At the same time, I wanted to shout in a loud voice.

JUST AS PLANNED!

Chapter 3 - Color of The Final Footstep

During the afternoon of the god community ‘Asgard’, the 2nd sister of the nine Valkyrie, Gerhilde-sama held me in her breast and departed toward ‘Valhalla’.

Every time she flaps her pure white wings, it speeds up the scenery of the surrounding, well it feels good flying in a speed that surpasses sound but it can cause fear at the same time.

“Gerhilde-sama, you are flying too fast! You might be faster than Grani-kun….”

“Hohoho, how impolite of you to compare me with my dear sister’s horse. You do know what ‘Rustung [6] Wind’ means right?”

“Rus? Nope, I don’t know, can you explain it to me?”

“It means the armor of wind… which is also the mark of a Valkyrie, it’s sort of like a symbol. I’m actually the best among my sisters in the ability to control the

wind, I can also use it to wrap around my body. You do know what this mean right?"

"Yes! it means that Gerhilde-sama is the best!"

"Yes, that's correct! Seems like you are smarter than I thought. Then I will grant you the permission to call me by my nickname 'Hilde'."

"I am very grateful for this!"

Ah? It's normal that she would give an impression when she was being praised, but I didn't thought that with a little compliment, I was able to increase the relationship that fast. It might be because she is too pure in nature, or is she the type that can be easily persuade by others..... No matter what, she is not much different from a prideful person. But it's too easy for her to be persuaded, is being the chosen one that easily to persuade?

Oh, I also thought of this when I first met Hildi this morning, it seem like we cannot judge a book by its cover.

"Ah, Gerhilde-sama."

“It’s okay if you use Hilde.”

“Hi… Hilde-sama, can we land at the practice field? It would be easy for us to have a practice on rune magic there.”

“Okay!”

After answering me, Gerhilde-sama suddenly descended at a high speed. The moment when we were going to reach the ground, it suddenly became silent and she slowly landed on the ground with no sound. The wings that were flying in the sky just now were like wings of elegant snows.

“Is it okay if we land here? I thought we will start from the lesson first.” After she put me on the ground, she kept asking me question.

I tried to use the most suitable reason to answer her most obvious question:

“You are only able to learn the basic from the lesson. But Gerhilde-sama actually don’t need those, it just that you’re not good at rune magic only, so there won’t be any problem if we start with the practical.

Moreover, I actually learn how to use rune magic by practicing, so it would be better if we start with the practical lesson."

"If that's the case, there's no choice. Well, I'm also not good with those boring lessons, it helps me a lot this way."

"It actually helps me a lot too since you're okay with this. Let's start right away so we can end it early, from now onwards, we have to go all out. Let's start with ....."

At this moment.

On top of both of us which are going to start with the lesson, there was an eagle that flew out of nowhere. The eagle seems to be flying in a circle in the sky, Gerhilde-sama and I were cautious about it and exchange our position where I hide behind of Gerhilde-sama. After that, the eagle suddenly descended toward the ground.

It stared sharply at us as if we are it prey. Even thought our line of sight is similar, yet it is releasing a huge amount of pressure toward us. It seems we

cannot let out guard down against this eagle!

“Yo, it’s such a good day, Gerhilde.” While I trying to be more caution, the eagle suddenly talk. Seems that it’s more straightforward from what I imagine.

‘That voice, don’t tell me! So you still haven’t return the eagle clothing back to Freya-sama yet!”

“Wait, don’t be so angry, Gerhilde. I did ask for Freya permission properly, you know? I even mentioned that I will borrow it for quite some time.”

“Oh, is that the case? Then there is no harm done.”

“Even though she didn’t agree to it?”

“Then return it now!”

To avoid Gerhilde-sama rapid attacks, the stubborn eagle flew straight up which easily evaded the attack. To be able to avoid Gerhilde-sama rapid attack that easily…..

“Is this eagle someone you know, Gerhilde-sama?”

“Ha? What are you talking about! That eagle is Loki-sama! You saw him before right!”

“A… That eagle is Loki-sama….. Please don’t joke around. That’s an eagle you know? Well, maybe that’s not some simple matter, but that’s an eagle, you know. An eagle. Haha.”

“You, you bastard…… it seems that you are able to use the run of ice.”

“No, I can’t! That was just a joke, it was that cold?”

Well, let this put this a side…… My impression of Loki-sama, is that he’s a step-brother to Thor-sama and he’s a master trickster in the god community. At the same time, he is also the one who recommended me to be a meal in ‘Valhalla Kitchen’, in a way he is my benefactor.

Why would such an impressive person come to this place, the appearance is also different from Loki-sama. The actual Loki-sama is a young man with dark brown skin and his left iris is gold color while his right is blue

“Kukuku! Your joke is quite cold no matter how I see it, dark brown one. I hope that you were able to recognize me based on my voice though.”

After the eagle named Loki-sama finished saying that, he spread his wings and made an X shape. At the same time, his body from the bottom up, mysteriously getting bigger and bigger and finally it turn into a shape of a human.

That's..... Well, this seems like a magic trick which is different from the rune 'mannaz' right? And I feel like I saw this face before.... If I'm not mistaken this person was with Lord Odin when he came to invite me while I still at the forest of Idavoll[7] .... Right? Oh, that should be correct. There is no doubt that he is.....

"Please forgive me, Loki-sama!!! The behavior that I showed you is unforgivable!"

"Oi! Wait, don't keep knocking your head like you're using your brain to dig a hole."

"Loki-sama, you are being too kind to me! I feel so grateful I will do this until my nose drop off!"

"Shouldn't it have already dropped off since your nose had becoming a shovel due to the knocking? Okay, please calm down now!"

I listened to the advice of Loki-sama and began to take a big breathe, the earthy smell in my nose began to spread out and I managed to calm down after I feel Mother Nature.

“Loki-sama, I am very thankful that you invited such a small fry like me to ‘Valhalla’. I plan to go visit you afterward but the Chef Head said that it was not necessary for me to do so.”

“There’s no need for you to thank me. I won’t blame you even if you have a grudge toward the Aesir tribe for cooking you every night…. I won’t even mind even if you come to hate me.”

Loki-sama patted me on my head in deep grief after he said that. Ah… I really should go visit him once and inform him about my own opinion.

“Even though I was forced to do it in the beginning but the one who managed to convince Lord Odin to allow me to make the final decision is Loki-sama. Moreover, it was me who chose to die –- So I should be thankful to you instead of hating you.”

“….Is that so.”

Loki-sama smiled slightly while standing up and said:

“But,” His eye showed a sight of sorrow while he look up to the sky, “To live is certainly good, even if it doesn’t have not have any meaning.”

“……”

Human words and thoughts, they must exist somewhere in the heart. I wonder what Loki-sama was feeling in his heart when he muttered that….His words are constantly echoing in my chest.

-This means that this immortal ability can allow a person to look down on life - Oh, I better remember this by heart.

“By the way, Loki-sama why did you come here?”

Having spotted a gap in the conversation, Hilde-sama asked the most important question. Loki-sama gave an ‘Oh’ and nodded slightly, and he answered nonchalantly:

“Actually I come because of this Sa….. What’s your name again?”

“It Sæhrímnir.”

“Actually I was interested in Sei. I heard that he was able to transform into a dragon, right?”

“That right, the dragon he transformed into seems like a very nasty creature.” Seems like a nasty creature…. It’s true that the purple scale looks poisonous but say it likes that is a bit too much. And why is people keep forgetting about my name! Like how Hildi and Loki-sama did just now! Everyone is very horrible!

“I amazed that Loki-sama knew about this matter so fast as if you have a very long ear.”

“Aa, I heard this from Ratatoskr. His ability to collect information is the best in the God community, so he immediately informed me of this matter when I asked him.”

“That squirrel….. He has the guts to secretly sneak in ‘Vingólf’. I will give him a knead punishment the next time I see him.”

What kind of punishment is that? I am very interested in it, it would be better if you can use that against me.

“Don’t be so angry, it’s not like you and your sisters managed to figure out that he was peeking right? Well that stealth ability is actually one of his outstanding talents. We need a lot more people like him in the God Community right?”

“Well, that is truth but…. Loki-sama why does it seem you are giving him too much protection?”

“Oi! No no, you see, actually because Heimdallr keeps watching the outside of ‘Asgard’ right, doesn’t it seem that the defenses from the inside of ‘Asgard’ a bit weak? That’s why we need someone who is able to grasp all the information in every corner here and that someone is Ratatoskr.”

“Well…. Seems to be a reasonable excuse for it, then I will forget about this then.”

“Aiya… then let get down to business.”

Loki-sama turned around and faced me when he finished talking. Oo that expression seem like he’s up to something bad.

“Sei, teach me how to transform into a Mystical Type. I

also want to try to transform into a dragon."

"Of course but let me finish teaching Gerhilde-sama first."

"Ho, Sei, don't you think you are arranging the priority in a wrong way? I purposely came here to find you and you wanted me to wait?"

"That's correct. There is nothing to be worry about because I won't let you wait for long."

"No, Sei, it's better for you to put my matter toward the end and teach Loki-sama first."

Gerhilde-sama tried to smooth things over when she sensed that Loki-sama was impatient. Even though I also sensed that Loki-sama was angry but it's not good to change the order so easily.

"According to the order, Gerhilde-sama is the one who asked me to teach her the rune 'mannaz' first, so please wait for a while Loki-sama."

"Oi... Sei, don't you know how to see the time occasion? Oh, come one, you do know that I am the one who asked you? Do you really intend to let me wait,

me who is the step-brother of Odin and the No. 2 in the God Community?"

"Hm… well I already think of the occasion and time. Personally I feel there is no urgency in Loki-sama's request and it is unfair for me to change the order because Loki-sama is mightier."

"…. Even if the one requesting it is Odin?"

"!"

I afraid this prying question is the final ultimatum to see whether I will change the order or not. It's like a test to see whether I will disturb the watershed of a God lamella. In order way, it is the decision that will determine whether I will live or die.

Actually there is no need to worry over this matter actually. If I received a divine punish due to a chivalrous heart that no one cared, I will definitely show a smiley face while being silence. If this was me from the past, I would definitely do that. But–

"I am very sorry, Loki-sama--"

But – it's different now. It's true that dying is

something scary even though I have experienced it for numerous times already. But… to me whom has used to dying as if it's a daily routine, it is more harder for me to stop myself from saying the word I wanted and showed an unnatural smiling face as if nothing happened.

So I …. can't back down, not even for a bit.

"I don't care who it is, I will treat everyone fairly."

"Is that so…. Good, you pass! You pass it perfectly."

"Ah? I passed?"

The angry face that he showed just now suddenly disappears as if it was a lie, and suddenly become a brilliant smile. I felt that he is actually lying to us instead of look like lying to us? Is he trying to investigate me? Ha… I thought that he was planning something but it actually just this.

"Yaa, the unwavering attitude of yours is quite impressive, it been a long time since I meet someone who stick to their own principle. So to respect that unyielding faith of yours, I use my position to test you.

Next time there is no need for any formalities when you call me."

Loki-sama laughed loudly while carrying me. Wuu…. Seemed like I've been acknowledge by an impressive person. Am I going to be okay in the future….

As a conclusion, Loki-sama sincerely agreed to respected the order. Even though there's some issues just now, I can finally begin to teach Hilde-sama on rune magic.

"Then, Hilde-sama, let try to transform into a swan."

"Um… that, I'm troubled because I can't transform into it."

"You can't even transform at all? Because I want to try to find out Hilde-sama problem when using the rune 'mannaz', that why try to transform if possible so that I can have a look at it."

"Ah… if that's case, then I will try…..activate rune of 'mannaz'!"

The relieved Hilde-sama activated the rune of 'mannaz'. After the flash of light, there is indeed a

beautiful white bird in front of me. Yes, only the color is correct…

“The color is correct but the appearance is different!! This is just a wild chicken!”

“That why I said I cannot do it! I don’t even know how to transform into a swan!”

“Then let try transforming into a stork. Try to make the neck a bit longer.”

After listening to my advice, Hilde-sama try to concentrate again and activate the rune of ‘mannaz’ for the second time. Even though it’s better than the first time but the neck length is closer to a duck.

“Oh… I understand it now. As expected Hilde-sama quality is quite good.”

“Eh? Don’t tell me it completed already?”

“Not that, I mean that you are able to properly listen to my teaching. It seems like Hilde-sama is too dependent on the knowledge which leads to a confusion on the appearance…. Which is the same as me in the past.”

If that's the case then, it would be easier for me to solve it. The best way to learn is by keep doing practice repeatedly, from there she will be able to identify and solve the weakness and the body itself will also be able to remember the fell. But to me who was able to overcome the weakness, there is no need for me to practice and I am able to provide better opinion on it.

The most important thing is, it's very easy to flatter Hilde-sama.

"Hilde-sama, try and imagine 'What if I am a swan' instead of thinking how to become one."

"If I am a swan… even if you said that…."

"Actually that's a simple matter. Because a swan is a very beautiful bird. Moreover, Hilde-sama has a beauty that appears once in a blue moon so it's impossible for you to transform into a bird other than a swan!"

"You are correct, Sei!" As long as I have my beauty, a simple swan transformation like this can be complete with just a blink of an eye! You better paid attention, I will show you my true power!"

After the third concentrations, Gerhilde-sama was once again wrapped by the light. This time I am confident that it will success.

“You see… It’s a success!”

I transform into my human form and take out a mirror from my pocket and put it in front of Hilde-sama. The reflection from the mirror is the world most beautiful swan.

“Success… I did it! And also very fast! Sei, I am very grateful to you! It’s all because of you, there’s nothing that will bother me in the future missions!”

“You’re welcome, I am glad I was able to be of help. Next is Loki-sama, sorry for making you wait, now I’ll teach you on how to transform into a dragon.”

“Ah, let’s just cancel it, seems like it’s impossible for me to do it.”

And I thought he was eager to know, since I didn’t expect him to just canceled it and went back in such a way. Ah, maybe he lost his interest because he needed to wait for a long time.

When I was wondering if he was really angry this time, he suddenly informed me the explanation as if to relief me of my worry:

"Whether it's a dragon or a swan, the 'IF' impression is the most important right? If I tried to transform now, I'll be able to transform into a swan but I doubt I could transform into a dragon. Looks like only you are able to transform into like, maybe it one of your special feature?"

Loki-sama said this to me with a complex expression of both envious and admiring. But soon after, he changed into a strange expression and said while staring at me with his heterochromia iris.

"Well, you see, the rarer the dominant ability you have, the easier it is to attract enemy. You're better not spreading the news on the dragon transformation, because assassin might come for you."

The more confidence you have, the easier is it to be hit by others, I can't help but to keep my guard up. This is because having a rare ability can be seen as a value of use to others. Well, I'm useful in some situation since I

came to ‘Valhalla’ due to my ‘Gullveig’ ability. It’s also not that rare if people wants to make use of my dragon transformation.

“Thank you for worrying about me, I’ll try my best as to not cause any troubles to others.”

After Loki-sama heard my answer, he nodded his head with a satisfied look, and he seemed calmer.

So there is no more pending mater, I had already completed the request by Brynhildr-sama, and it felt like my worry is gone now. Now, looks like I’ll go back to my daily routine as usual…. Now that I think of it, it seems a bit… no… it’s very lonely.

Why did I have so much fun in these two days! I didn’t thought I was able to use ‘Odin style’ to drink Hayes mead that time, being able to talk with my beloved Brynhildr-sama for a long time and also make my first friend, Grani-kun. There is also the lunch that Freya-sama purposely invited me to.

However, the joy will eventually end, now I have to go back to the old day where I’ll die and be served as a meal. I feel that…. Even though I know I have to go

back but there's a small part of me that's not willing to work...

"Then, let meet up in front of Bifröst tomorrow with all three of us. The meeting time is during the sunrise, don't be late okay?"

"Eh?"

Both Hilde-sama and I were stunned when Loki-sama suddenly suggested that. He shrugged and continued when he saw us in this state:

"Oi, Sei, seems you are very dense. Your first disciple had graduated with joy so as the master you'll have to confirm the result of your teaching. That why, when Gerhilde is doing her Valkyrie mission, there won't be any problem if we accompany her right?"

"Ah, you're right, there shouldn't be any problem. I already plan to finish my mission after I've mastered the swan transformation. But isn't a Valkyrie mission quite boring?"

"It's better than doing nothing right, Sei?"

.....This person..... don't tell me that he knew what I

was thinking. To find out that I felt bitter about going back to my old days and also the reality that the joy is going to end.

“Yes…. Thank you, Loki-sama.”

“Eh? Oi, why are you thanking me for? Also, didn’t I ask you to drop the formalities already, it’s okay if you just called me Loki? Sei, do you want to enjoy life together?”

“Oh….yes, Loki-sa….Loki.”

There are two necessities in life that is happiness and entertainment. If there is a lacking in those two necessities even a human would choose to die even though they don’t wish so.

The true meaning of ‘death’ in life is the moment when enjoyment is gone….. Which is what I thought

After that during the night at ‘Valhalla kitchen’.

“Ah…. No no, I don’t want to die. In which to say that I am quite enjoying my life.”

The thought of denying death is the proof that I am

happy. I didn't thought that the principle that I learnt during the conversation with Loki become reality this fast.

"Eh? Sei-kun what happened, isn't the water already boil?"

"No, even if you said it a hot bath, I will also…."

But it is impossible for me to not step into it. This is because I am the main dish for 'Valhalla Kitchen', which is the irreplaceable and only ingredient. I should just jump in right away without any hesitation…..!

"Sei-kun, if you are not in the mood, you can choose not to jump in."

"Really, Chef Head?"

Is this for real? No, even though I am quite happy about this…… but how will they settle the dinner for the Einherjars?

"Yo, Sei-kun…. This magic pot….. Is actually something quite convenient. As long as you put the ingredient inside, it will be cook automatically. There

is no need to peel the vegetable, and also no need to cut the fish or animal."

"Oh, is that so?"

Eh? Why is Chef Head suddenly saying something that is obvious? Isn't it due to this feature that I was able to jump inside the pot in a whole?

I slowly looked up to ask the Chef Head about the questions that I had.

"Alas!"

Did something happened……? Chef Head is laughing! Wait, he is angry! I'm not sure why but his is angry with a very scary smile! Don't tell me that I did something wrong?

"Oi, don't be scared. Just listen to me, I'm only halfway on the pot topic….. Because it can cook automatically, it is too effective until I feel worry about it. Try to think about it, the pot makes the cooking easier….. Then there is no need for any chef right? Due to this, we will lose our value as chef."

"Is that so……"

“That why I thought of this, for the sake of all the chef, it should be better for us to complete the main dish with our on method sometime rather than relying on the pot. Thus, I will only use the pot at the end just to avoid the meals from running out.”

“That…. What’s with the sudden urge?”

“…… This morning, you bought Hayes-kun to my room then ran off right?”

Ah…..

“Do you know how much effort did it take for me to run away from Hayes-kun?”

“Um… That….No. There is no harm done if you just offer your body to her anyway.”

“It is not good!”

BAM The Chef Head hit the stove and shouted out.

“It goes against my own principle, if the chef that handles life in the kitchen is the first to start going against the ethics. I know that you did that it for my own sake, I am quite happy that you care about me.

BUT you almost caused me to become a criminal that try to lay their hand on a loli, I will not be satisfied if I don't give you an equal punishment! That is why, I will now begin with the minced meat punishment on you!"

After he finish saying that, he catch me on the neck and walk toward the inner part of the kitchen after lifted me up. After that, he started up the large mincer machine there.

Follow with a big 'bam' sound, the gear of the mincer began to spin. The machine uses the 'power' from the rune 'uruz' as the acting force, so it can make minced meat out of every livestock that was put in.

"Why does 'Valhalla Kitchen' have this kind of thing?!"

"Is this the first time you see this, Sei-kun? This machine is used for 'A person' to make ingredient with. That's why, Sei-kun, do you want to try to enter it?"

"Wait! Didn't you say that you are going to make the dished with your own hand? Then you should peel off the skin before you start the machine! You should had

slaughter me in a more gentle way!"

"There won't be any problem, this is because there is no harm when something else is mix in during the preparation time. In the end, it will go inside the pot anyway. Then shall we start? One…. Two….. Three!"

"Why are you doing this, Chef Head!! Please wait for a moment, help….help me!!"

That night –- After I was put in the large mincer first and then the pot, I was made a very delicious terrine which shined on the dinning table.

Looks like I'm able to do more things now, it makes me quite happy…. What a joke!

Before dawn when the sun is about to rise, after a short while when the Moon God Mani-sama and the Sun Goddess Sola-sama change shift, I climbed out from my bed. This is not because of my morning jogging but to meet up with Loki and Hilde-sama and complete the Valkyrie mission together.

The Valkyrie mission that Hilde-sama needs to undergone is the usual mission which is to find an

Einherjar. In another word, we will be going to the human realm 'Midgard'.

"I'm so looking forward to it! This is going to be my first time going to 'Midgard', I wonder what kind of place is it?"

I would definitely be excited if I go there alone, but there won't be any problem if the three of us go together and it'll be merrier. To be honest, I was so excited I couldn't sleep yesterday.

"Well, I cannot tell Loki and the other such childish thing like I didn't sleep a wink due to the excitement."

puff

Hm....? Am I imagining thing? I feel like... there is someone outside of my room.

I concealed my presence and leaned on the door, then I pulled the rope which is the lock. The one who appear in my doorstep is the person whom I adore, Brynhildr-sama.

"Br...Bryn...Brynhildr-sama! Wh.....Why are you here?"

“Ah, good morning, Sei-kun. That… I heard that Sei-kun is going to join the Valkyrie mission with others, I thought that I will see you off. But since it’s still early, I don’t want to disturb you by knocking on the door, so I decided to wait outside of your room.”

Ah.. As expected of Brynhildr-sama, she is so kind! There’s also a possibility that she will wake me up in the case that I overslept. Her kindness is similar like to Our Lady.

“But….. Haha, I kind of feel sorry to disturb your sleep……Hahaha.”

“Argh! Did you hear that?”

“No! That, nevermind. I laugh because I feel that Sei-kun is really very adorable! Which is a good thing!”

“Ah, yes, that’s right? Eh ha ha…..”

I cannot believe I was able to get on Brynhildr-sama good side for this kind of matter. Well, if I have an opportunity to talk to her like this, I might be able to show off my handsome side instead of my cute side.

“That, I am very grateful that purposely come over to

my room. I might cause some problems toward the mission because of my overexcitement."

"Hahaha, it's okay if you relax a bit? Compare to that, I am actually shocked because I didn't expect that Gerhilde is carrying out her mission on the second day of rune magic teaching. Does that mean that Gerhilde had already mastered the rune magic?"

"Yes. As expected of a Valkyrie, I only gave her some hints and she managed to do it."

"Is that so, that's an impressive feat. Um…. Sei-kun, I am sorry for the trouble that I caused and thank you…."

"Please wait a moment!"

I quickly stopped her when Brynhildr-sama was going to lower her head. In order to avoid getting scolded by Brynhildr-sama, I immediately told her my opinion:

"Actually the mission is not finished yet, so I'm not sure I've managed to help Gerhilde-sama until she completed her mission. Thus, please thank me later."

"Sei-kun…… okay, I understand. Then I will return

this kindness after the mission is completed."

Brynhildr-sama cross her hand and I felt that she is looking at my passionately. Hoho, did I managed to show off my handsomeness toward her?

"Well…. Brynhildr-sama, the meeting time is approaching soon, I will take my leave now."

"Ah, yes. Then let me send you to the 'Rainbow Void'. Ah! Before that, Sei-kun."

What is it this time? Ah, don't tell me it's…… a goodbye kiss? Haha, maybe my gentleman spirit is flowing out again. Haha.

"You still got some bed hair, let me help you comb it."

"……Thanks for the help……"

Haha…. Looks like that I really did not reflect on my action…..

Then, after I received a safety departure blessing and the best smile from Brynhildr-sama, I jumped into the opening at the Yggdrasil branch and entered the 'Rainbow Void'. My destination is the rainbow bridge

‘Bifröst’, which is the only path that connects the God Community ‘Asgard’ with the human realm ‘Midgard’.

“Hee…Ah, the rainbow bridge! So that is Bifröst, it’s so beautiful.”

The teleportation went smoothly this time as well, in front of me is the beautiful rainbow bridge. It’s just like a scenery comes out from a dream…. I looked around the scenery while feeling relaxed and happy.

This is the southern end of ‘Asgard’ and there is nothing for people to expect here. There’s only a large building in the lonely plain-- I think that building is ‘Himinbjorg’.

So that’s ‘Himinbjorg’, the place where Heimdall-sama lives. Moreover Heimdall-sama is the guardian of the rainbow bridge ‘Bifröst’ and also the watcher against the giants.

That’s right, a watcher job is the most important. It’s because on the other end of ‘Bifröst’ is the eastern part of the human realm. Moreover, it lies between the tall wall of the human realm and the Giant country ‘Jötunheimr’. Thus, this makes ‘Bifröst’ a strategic

location.

It's still a mystery as to why the architect of the bridge designed it that way, but it could be said that it was thanks to Heimdall-sama that 'Asgard' has been able to maintain peace for this whole time. With his natural born excellent sight and hearing ability, and the mysterious body that does not require any sleep allow him to undergone his daily routine without any problem, the perfect watcher. If there is any problem, the horn 'Giallar' will be blown to alert all the corners of the wall, well it was not sounded even once up until now and I hope it won't be sounded in the future either.

At least ––— before 'The twilight of the Gods' happen.

I shouldn't think about something bad at this moment! Everybody was looking forward to this trip to 'Midgard'. I wonder where is Loki and Hilde-sama? Once again, I looked around.

….Eh? To be frank, I just noticed that, why is my sight a bit higher? Did I teleport on top of a rock?

I tried to look under my feet while thinking about that,

eh? What is this? I feel like I'm standing on a slippery floor and I'm a bit unbalance? If I'm not careful, I'll easily slip.

"Sei! What are you doing, come down quickly! That's Heimdall back!"

"AHH! I'm very sorry, Heimdall-sama! I'm not doing it on purpose!"

I quickly jumped off from his back and immediately kneeled down. I'm not sure did he forgive me due to the consummate kneeling because Heimdall-sama just standing up without a word.

"Why was Heimdall-sama laying on the ground?" I asked a very simple and logical question.

Heimdall-sama put his right hand on his waist, cracked his neck and answered me in a deep mellow voice:

"……. This is because Loki said that it's weird for a watcher to be just standing firmly while keeps watching."

"That's correct, it's pointless if you exposed your

position to the enemy. That's why it better if you lower your head a bit."

"No, Loki, I didn't saw any security that is laying on the ground while working."

After I said that to Loki, Heimdall-sama began to think of something. After a few second that Heimdall-sama closed his eye, he said it in a deep voice:

"Which is to say…. That there is a new standard for a watcher."

Upon hearing his conclusion, I wonder did I mishear something.

"Please don't change the standard on your own! Listen up, Heimdall-sama, please lift me up!"

"…..? Understood."

Heimdall-sama lifted me up to his chest height.

"Please lift me up to your head!"

"……. Like this?"

"Then let me ask a question here. Since 'Asgard' is on top of the cloud, is there any meaning if there is a little

bit of height difference?"

"... Basically there is not much difference."

"No, there is 'completely' no difference. Why do you want to keep denying it?"

Yes, there is actually no point for the action that he did. On the other hand, normally it should be better for a watcher to be standing so that others can feel the inhibition that 'God is always watching'.

No matter what, it's impossible for Heimdall-sama, which possesses the clairvoyance eye, to be spotted by the enemy first.

Really..... Looks like even Heimdall-sama is confused due to Loki's horrible trick.

I'm not sure whether Heimdall-sama agreed with my opinion or not but he put me down with his usual emotionless face.

"Good, Heimdall, try to aim at the goal and kick it!"

"Don't try to encourage him, Loki! I'll die if he kicks me!"

“Kukuku, well it doesn’t matter since u can revive anyway.”

“That’s correct but things will be more complicated! I can only revive during the time that the sun set.”

“….Ah? Is that so? This is the first time I heard of this, is that it?”

Loki ask me with a smirk. Other than the Chef Head, there is no one else that knows about this matter.

“There is one condition to activate my revive ability, ‘Gullveig’. That is it will activate during the sun set. It won’t change no matter when I die. So if I die now, I’ll have no way to revive myself until the sun set today.”

“If that is the case, what would happen if you died now?”

Hilde-sama who had been silently listening while smiling joined in the conversation. I used a simple explanation to explain to both of them:

“Up until now I always jump into the pot to die during dusk which is a short while before the sun set. That why it looks like that I was able to revive immediately

because the sun will set in a moment."

"In other words, if you die now in this early morning....."

"Right, I will be unable to revive until the sun set today. Additionally, I will waste around half a day doing nothing. But..... the biggest problem is after I revive."

"Why do you say that?"

"If I die now, I still need to jump inside the pot because the Einherjars require dinner every day. That means I'll die after sun set and so I'll have to wait until the sun set on the next day to revive. I will be wasting another day again and after that since I'm required for dinner....."

"You going to die after revive....."

That's right-- that's the thing that I'm most afraid of. Once I enter this bad cycle, I will need to keep dying after reviving if there is no replacement for the dinner. Thus, there is no difference from a dead people. No..... To be frank it is an existence that is much worse than a

dead people.

After the Chef Head known of this crisis, he decided that I will only be cook before sunset every day. Now that I think about it, I really should thank Chef Head for this brilliant idea.

"……. Well, are you sure that there is only one condition?"

Loki said that with a complicated expression that's much difference from me who is explaining. Because I couldn't understand his question, I asked him again for confirmation:

"What do you mean by that?"

"It's literally as what I said. The condition for 'Gullveig' to activate is 'sunset'….. Are you sure about this? Don't you mean 'that time'? I mean the possibility that it's 'when the moon rises'? Well it could be 'A blank of darkness' when there is no sun and moon on the sky or 'the end of the day. What do you think about this, Sei?"

"If, if you said it like that….."

“You’re not sure? Then we should test it. Even though there are quite a number of possible conditions, we should do what we can to testify it. It’s better for us to see whether that ability is really just a revival in a situation where there is no limitation like this. The more you understand your ability, the better.”

What he said is quite logical. I only understand my ability based on all the experience that I had up until now.

The meaning of this ability…. No, the meaning why I have this ability? If I can solve this, I might be….. I will be able to understand everything about this ability.

“Well, let’s put the nonsense aside and complete the mission first. Heimdall, please give us permittion to use Bifröst.”

“……. Wait, I haven’t scored the goal with this boar.”

“….Eh”?

“I will only use eighty percent of my power then.”

“No, I would disappear without any ash left! This is all Loki fault, quick think of something!”

“Hey, Heimdall, didn’t you just heard what we said? It will be troublesome if Sei who is able to revive to die now, so I want to cancel the order just now!”

After listening to Loki, Heimdall looked toward me and Loki then asked:

“Don’t tell me….. That I can’t score the goal?”

“Yes, Heimdall-sama”

“…Understand. Then I won’t use this boar to score the goal.”

Phew….. That’s good, even though there are some communication errors, it’s a good thing that he’s obedient.

“Really, I don’t even know if this fellow knows how to take a joke.”

“Of course, all the attack from all angles is ineffective against me, no matter if it’s from the top, bottom or in the middle.”[8]

“Um…, Loki, is it really okay for this person to be the guardian of Bifröst?”

“I understand why you’re worrying about this….. But you see, today ‘Asgard’ is also very peaceful, right?”

“That’s what shocked me…..”

I didn’t know until today that the world can be so peaceful is really an extraordinary miracle.

“Okay then, Heimdall, I want to get your permission now.”

“….. Is this boar accompanying you?”

“Of course, didn’t I say I want to bring him along? We’re going to stand aside when Gerhilde is trying to persuade some potential Einherjars to join in ‘Midgard’. Don’t worry, I don’t plan to do anything bad.”

“….. I understand, then the time limit for you to come back is …… the sunset today. Please be careful now.”

Heimdall-sama sent us off with the expression and tone that remained the same from the beginning. Ah…. I just realized after talking to him that he is quite stupid…. And quite an honest person, which really surprised me. Well, I just hope that I won’t need to go

find him anymore for any thing emergency.

Then, I can finally begin my first trip to 'Midgard'. I can fully enjoy my time today!

"Oh, this…. This is the human world 'Midgard'! The air seems to be the same as 'Asgard'."

After walking through Bifröst, we arrived in a green plain. On the way to persuade an Einherjar, I joyfully use my whole body to feel the world.

"Ah, there's a city there! Let go take a look, Loki! There is so many colorful building!"

"Yes yes, that's right, this is nothing to shout out loud. Well there's not much difference between 'Asgard' and 'Midgard' right?"

Loki, who is the direct opposite of me whom is at maximum excitement state, answered coldly. I replied him without giving a second thought, this is because it'll a big loss if you can't enjoy this feeling:

"Because there's not much difference is the reason why I'm so excited! The green grassland, the mirror clear lakes, the mountain wrapped by cloud, the high

density of air that could cause intoxication. Whether it's the nature or the building, it is quite different with the scenery in 'Asgard'. How do I put it..... It makes me want to draw this scenery and bring it back."

I tried to give an impression of an artist while using my hoof to capture the scenery.

"Hee, you're quite impressive for a boar."

Suddenly, there is a voice of an old man appeared from behind us. I turned around and found that indeed there stood an old man. He's carrying a large amount of art material with a small and short body build.

"Witige[9]! What are you doing here"

"Eh? Hoho, aren't you Gerhilde-sama. Well, I just finished my working material so I was going to the town. I'm heading back now."

The Witige grandpa gave a warm smile and pointed at the art material behind him. Even though his luggage is heavy but it doesn't seem like he is suffering from it.

"Are you an acquaintance of Hilde-sama?"

From the way they talked, it should be obvious that they are acquaintance, but I still purposely asked. Gerhilde-sama understood my purpose and introduced us to the grandpa:

“This is Witige, a mixed blood between a human and dwarf. Even though he is old, but he was once called the rival of the sword saint. Moreover, he is also the target for our mission.”

“Eh! Then, this grandpa is… the backup for the Einherjar?”

“Hohoho, it’s not a surprise that you are shocked. I didn’t bother to count my age after I passed two hundred, I’m not even sure if I can still managed to fight for long. Now I’m trying to earn a living by being a drawer. It’s an honor to be chosen by a Valkyrie…. But I don’t think I have the qualification to accept this honorable request.”

It looks like he was laughing at himself and slowly walked away from us. The shadow that filled with sorrow and grief look so small and weak.

–At the same time, I also feel he is hiding something

big within his heart and body.

"….. What a magnificent aura." Loki whispered.

Gerhilde-sama also nodded her head in agreement, even an outsider like me also agreed on this.

Even though he showed us him humble attitude, but the aura of a hero that can't be hidden keep flowing out. If we invite him to 'Valhalla', there is no doubt that he will be the strongest Einherjars.

"We have arrived, please come in. This is my workshop and home, it's not so comfortable is it?"

His house which is a wooden bungalow lied beside a lake where the Yggdrasil can be seen.

From the outer appearance, it looks quite big, but half of the place is occupied by working tables and his works. The living area part is quite small. It's quite cramp when so many human enter so I better stay in my boar form.

"Witige, I hope you can reply to my request today."

"Huh? Does that mean Gerhilde-sama has already

made the preparation to fulfill the wish of this old man?”

The overexcited Hilde-sama asked before the tea was served while Witige looked at her like he was trying to play a trick on her.

I wonder why Witige refused a Valkyrie request until now. If both of them are already acquaintance, which is to said they met before this or at least once since they are required to meet up during the invitation to ‘Valhalla’.

It’s because the request was refused, we have to come here to persuade him again. But normally anyone would happily accept it, I wonder why is he doing this? That answer can be found in the special training for Gerhilde-sama.

“You want to see the swan transformation of a Valkyrie that once stole the heart of your father right? [10] I hope after this you could accept the request.”

“Yes, if I can manage to draw it out, there is no more regret for me in this life. Let’s go out, I want Yggdrasil

to be in the background."

After he saying that, Witige carried some art tool and went out.

"Ah. Are we not doing it in this workshop? Um.. Loki, do you know what Yggdrasil is?

"Ah, that is the World Tree. In the God Community, we use Léraðr, but in the human world, they use Yggdrasil. I don't know the reason but there is not much difference."

"Hee, Yggdrasil."

I kept repeating this phrase while gazing at the Yggdrasil. It looks like a big green tree that is supporting the sky, there really isn't much difference when I saw it at the God Community.

While I was thinking about this, Witige had already begun with his masterpiece. Thank god that Hilde-sama managed to activate the rune of 'mannaz' successfully, Witige is in the middle of drawing her in his canvas. By using the world tree in the background, it portrays a beautiful white swan that is floating on

the mirror like lake. Even though I don't knowledge in art but I believe that this scenery can bring out the best inspiration.

"Witige, what type of art do you usually draw?"

"Ah, that, normally I draw art based on the landscape especially on Yggdrasil. That tree is very impressive, I never get bored drawing that big tree which is full of energy."

"Looks like you've drawn a lot."

"Well there is something more surprising, I actually interested in art when I was still a swordsman. The time I holding a brush is longer compare to holding a sword. The reason why I gave up is because I was not good at it. But lately I realize that my specialty is not on the landscape but it on the other type of painting."

"Ho ho, what type of painting is it?"

"I think it's call nude painting."

"Nude painting!!" Loki and I both shouted at the same time.

Nude painting is that nude painting right? Even though I heard about don't judge a book by it cover but I can't believe this old man has such a godly talent…

"Grandpa, please let me replace the God of Art, Bragi to judge your artistic standard. Where is the art?"

"Do you want some opinion from the view of a boar? Please let me assist you!"

"No, it was quite popular, so I'm not so sure if there is any leftover…. There might be some in the workshop….Oh, this seems to be okay. Thank you for your assistance, Gerhilde-sama, I have already finished drawing it."

Hilde-sama work as a model ended the same as the art finish. In this instance, Hilde-sama deactivated the rune of 'mannaz' and immediately chased after us who is running toward Witige house. She blocked the entrance and said:

"Yo, where are you two heading? There is no reason for us to stay here since the painting is already completed, can I ask that you guys prepare for the departure?"

“Cheh….. Understand, damn it.”

Loki cracked his head, he looked quite unhappy. I understand how you feel, partner.

“Then let continue with the request. Gerhilde-sama, I’m prepared, you may begin anytime now.”

Witige pull out a sword that is in the wall of the bungalow. He pointed the tip of sword toward Hilde-sama who’s giving off a chilling cold aura.

“What happen Witige!? Don’t tell me you plan to fight against Hilde-sama….!?”

Suddenly, my brain fulled of ominous thought. Even though I wanted to rush forward and stop them, but I can’t get near to them no matter how. I was picked up by Loki by the neck.

While I was struggling, Gerhilde-sama is slowly advancing. Accompany by the gentle breeze, in the middle of the green plain, she calmly said:

“Even if I bring the living over, it will just be a guest. If we invite the dead, they will enter the Realm of the Dead ‘Hel’. Only those who fallen in battle has the

qualification to be accepted into the second choice, which is 'Valhalla'."

.....That's correct. The requirement for an Einherjar is 'Fallen warrior who dies with honor'. I suddenly forget about this due to the close relationship between Hilde-sama and Witige..... The day that the two met had already determined their fate to battle each other.

"Grandpa, before we begin, may I ask how strong are you?"

"How strong am I? Hm...."

After listening to Loki question, Witige stroke his white beard and think. After a few second, the legendary swordsman eyes gave off a red glow and answered:

"When I was known as the sword saint back then and before this old man was allowed to follow his desire, at my golden age, I was able to make those dragon slayers to give in."

"Dragon slayer?"

"Oh. It's not so famous in 'Asgard' but in 'Midgard',

‘The legendary dragon slayer, Sigurd’ is like a bedtime story which really existed. Back then, I managed to force Sigurd to surrender. Well, it was difficult to decide on the winner.”

Impressive…. No matter what kind of battle it was, to be able to win over a dragon slayer is already enough to prove his strength. I wonder if Loki also has the same thought, looks like Loki is changing the topic.

“I heard from Ratatoskr before that there is a very fierce dragon living in ‘Gnitaheid’, I also heard of the news that the dragon was defeated by a human before.”

“That human is Sigurd. Moreover, the dragon is actually a dark elf, so my father learnt forging technique from his younger brother.”

“Wait a moment, that dragon is a dark elf in transformation? How did he do that?”

“I’m not sure on the specific detail but I heard it was because of ‘Desire’. The dark elf had been bewitched by the mountain of gold and fallen into an existence of evil. His name is –- ‘Fafnir’.”

“…..Fafnir…..”

I kept repeating this malicious name that didn’t exist anymore. A dark fairy that is able to perform a dragon transformation….. I want to ask how he possessed this power.

“Ah, Loki? What’s the matter? You look like you’re in deep thought?”

I asked Loki because I saw him stroking his chin while thinking about something.

“Eh? Ah, I sorry. There’s no problem, it just that I feel like I’ve heard the name Fafnir somewhere before…… Never mind, there should not be any problem since I can’t remember it.”

I’m not sure was he trying putting me at ease, but Loki shook his head and lightened up his expression. Well, since Loki has been a God for a long time, there shouldn’t be anything weird if he forgot a thing or two.

“Looks like we got stranded from our topic, so can that qualify as my proof of strength?”

The sword saint said that as to not stray too far from

the dragon slayer incident. Witige already show his poof and his unwavering will cause his sword to shine. His strength can be proved through the history.

“Ahem…. Let finish this up. There is no point in this request if you’re not strong. But–— that was all about your past glory, how are you now? Why don’t we have a dance with your beloved sword?”

“Hoho, you’re talking about ‘Mimung’ right? I’m sorry, Gerhilde-sama, even if you want to duel with me, I won’t even unsheathe it. If I do….. I’ll win this duel.”

“How dare you mock me…..!? I will go with all my strength!”

In that moment, a strong wind blew.

With Gerhilde-sama as the centre, all the grass in the surrounding was pull out, even the leaf in the tree was all blown away by this huge tornado. This overwhelming wind is …….. Gerhilde-sama Wind Armour!

“Come forth, ‘alder • Zweig’!”

There’s a crack in the wind and a thin silver lance

appeared in Gerhilde-sama hand. This lance which known as a small tree branch of the god, the name itself is normal but it has a scary origin-- It is an inferior product which is created from the branch of the World Tree Léraðr. In another word, this lance is like a sister to Lord Odin Gungnir.

"'The Green Lancer God' Gerhilde! Have appeared!"

"'The Black Sword Saint' Witige, a one round match!"

After finished announce their names, the distance between those two become zero in an instant. Sparks flied all over when their weapons met. They kept changing between offense and defense as their weapon clashing against each other. The battle between the aces is more beautiful than I thought. It's a pity that I can only see her blurry image since Hilde-sama is known as the most agile among her sisters.

What surprised me the most is Witige. He discarded the kind face from our first meeting and he even made the battle harder.... To be honest I thought he was setting up a dead flag.

But it seems I was wrong. Even though his eyes

couldn't keep up with Hilde-sama, but the way he moved his sword, he was able to block all the attack. This is the ultimate result from the continuous study and training ….. There isn't a moment where he showed his weakness, is this the legendary technique —

"Hahaha!!"

Hilde-sama concentrated and gave out a stronger blow than before. But this sonic thrust could not even penetrate the solid defense of the sword saint Witige.

"….. Ho, that thrust is quite scary, I think people other than me couldn't block it."

"Ah, it's such a shame, I thought that was enough to finish you off but looks like I have to go all out now. Ex-sword saint…. Sadly I have to inform you something."

"Huh? Seems I can't refuse it then, what is it?"

"Oh, I just want to inform you that I have to end the game now."

The moment when Hilde-sama finished with that,

lightning came out from the surrounding tornadoes. The wind made from magic was slowly getting denser and had exceeded its limit, possible to see it physically. At the same time, huge dark thunder cloud gathered in the sky. The gale coming from this dark cloud was raging up everywhere.

“Ah….. This is no longer a battle that a martial artist can fight.”

“Ho… It seems you’re regretting it now.”

“Yes, I really regret it. I really have some regret since this battle that makes my blood boil will end now. Please finish me off instantly before I start to worry.

“….. I’m sorry, Witige. Let us meet again in ‘Valhalla’.”

The dark wind fused with lance and a tornado was form in the hand of Gerhilde-sama. It seems that there is no one whom has seen this scenery before right? Looks like this lady of the Wind God is going to blow everything in this world with the sideway tornado in her hand!

“God Skill –-‘Blasen • Stoss’”[11]

She silently casted off the tornado in her hand as if it was a memorial object. The tornado blew away the black cloud, the lake which was wrapped in it made a big rain and a rainbow bridge was formed in the sky. There is no trace of Witige anymore. The spirit of the warrior who was killed by this God Skill is being lead to the Heaven via that rainbow bridge.

The skill just now is like some fantasy. But there is one weird thing, the lance that was casted off just now is in the hand of Hilde-sama now. Why I was wondering about this, Hilde-sama said this while cuddling her lance:

“Welcome back, you are really fast this time. Did you enjoy your trip around the globe?”

A trip around the globe….. This is impossible! Don’t tell me that after Hilde-sama threw her spear, it traveled around the globe in a split second and came back to her hand? It seems that no one can hide from it. If I said that Lord Odin lance is ‘100% hit rate’, then Hide-sama lance is ‘unavoidable’ - as expected from an

inferior version of the God Lance.

“Well, you are quite impressive, Gerhilde. This battle was quite interesting.”

This is the first time I saw a battle of a Valkyrie, I believe that this is a battle I’ll be remember forever. It should be right since Loki also have the same opinion.

“Thank you for your praise, then since the mission is completed. Let go back to ‘Valhalla’ now.”

“Yes, let us go back. We should also go find Witige.”

The result of this battle that was out of this world is the death of a hero. I finally know today that an Einherjar is invited in this way. I guess I have to put up with their attitude a bit from now onward.

“Ah, Sorry. I suddenly have a stomachache….. Can you two go first, I will catch up later. Ah, toilet toilet.”

I wonder what happen. Loki suddenly said he got a stomach ache and ran inside Witige house. Even though a stomach ache is not something unusual but no matter how you see…. He is faking it!

“Sorry, Hilde-sama! I also have a stomachache!”

“Huh? What happen? What with the sudden stomachaches….. Don’t tell me you guys ate something from the ground?”

“That…… My stomach is aching after seeing the heroic battle of the Gerhilde-sama…. I’ll take me leave first.”

Normally I would have thought of something better but I could only think of this at this moment. After saying that, I rush forward] Witige house which is going to collapse due to the battle.

“It seems that it should be better if I don’t fight with a spectator…..”

In the end Hilde-sama walk off while worrying, of course I didn’t know about this.

“Loki!”

“Argh! What, so it was only you Sei, don’t scare me like that? Haha, since you also came here…. You know what to do right?”

“Of course. Come, let us be quick.”

Loki and the human-form me split up and searched around Witige workshop for our target. Needless to said, we are searching for the stuff that was drawn by the legendary sword saint, NUDE PAINTING.

Is this a behavior that's similar to a thief? Oh come on, don't say something like that, this is for the purpose of preserving the painting that has a high historical value.

"Damn, I cannot find it..... This workshop is too messy. It's impossible to find it due to the wind caused by that Gerhilde."

"We should say it's lucky that the house has not completely collapsed yet.... Ah, Loki, look at this! The label on this wardrobe drawer says 'Nude painting'."

"You did well! Ok... dammit, I cannot pull it out. Sei, I'll lift up the rubble, you pull it out! One! Two!

With our cooperation, we managed to get our hands on the treasure. Since time is limited, we immediately inspect it.

"Hoho, we can finally see it now!"

The painting which we took out from the hidden drawer, is the nude painting of a beautiful young girl who can make all guy fall for. The problem is……. It's just a sketch.

"A design sketch! Isn't this a bit too rough! Even though it's a nude painting!"

"The sketch of a nude painting. Haha, we really failed this time."[12]

"If I hear you laugh one more time, I will slaughter you."

"I'm sorry."

Actually I'm also not satisfied with it? All my unfulfilled desire up until now and this results, if this goes on, I think I would even want to look at a nude man…… I'm just joking.

Let see what else is inside? I opened the drawer from top to bottom, and found a large amount of drawing from the most top part of the drawer, this is…..

"Drawing of Yggdrasil. Amazing…. It looks like I am actually seeing the real thing in front of me. Although

Witige said he had no talent, but I didn't think he could draw something this amazing without one."

"I really wanted to look at the nude painting at this quality."

"Maybe we should try to ask him next time since he already went to 'Valhalla'?"

"Why didn't I think of this? Let ask Freya to be the model!"

"Please allow me to accompany you at that time!"

I also didn't think of this! Loki really have a very nice idea. Hehe, I believe I will be happy every day from tomorrow onward.

Ah, it seems to be swollen when I think of that now, after Freya-sama, I should ask Brynhildr-sama, after that is Rossweisse-sama..... No, Waltraute-sama is better. Wait a moment, it's also not bad to ask the shy Schwertleite-sama or Grimgerde-sama.....

But please rest assured, to me Brynhildr-sama is my number one. I will use a beautiful frame to frame the painting and hang it on my room, after that I can sleep

in peace, which is the best experience for me. If it's possible, I would like to draw her painting on my own one day.

"....Eh? Loki, what's the matter?"

When I was day dreaming, I saw Loki staring at the Yggdrasil painting with a strange expression. He arranged the two painting on the work desk and said:

"Don't you think there is something difference between these two painting?"

"Difference? Oh, I didn't notice that, other than this is newer than that, is there any other difference? Both of them are painting of Yggdrasil and it's also very detail."

"Ah, here lies the problem. Both of them are indeed very detailed painting, but I got the feeling there is something difference. The position of Yggdrasil and the timing for the painting is the same, but there is something wrong with it. It's so strange I cannot find out....."

After Loki said that, once again I tried to have a closer

look…. No matter how many times I looked at it, there's no difference.

At this moment–— the ground started to shake a bit.

"Oh, is this an earthquake? Sei, I don't think this building can hold any longer, we should get out immediately for our safety."

"Oh, ya…."

The small scale shake that we experienced is because the World shakes when it sneezes.

But if ….. If the World really sneezes, what would it be like actually?

I don't know why but I can't stop shaking after I ran out of Witige house.

Chapter 4 - Color of The Dark Boar's Origin

"Okay, Sei-kun. It's almost time, are you ready?

In the night when we successfully returned from the trip to 'Midgard', as usual I'm standing on top of the chopping board in the 'Valhalla Kitchen' after hearing the signal from the Chef Head. This place where I can clearly see the boiling water is just like a guillotine [13] - no, a walking plank[14].

Of course, I always shut off my soul when standing here. Normally, a person won't die from taking a shots but he'll be very scared before taking it right? This uses the same theory as that. Even though I am able to revive, but I'm still quite afraid of death. The reason is because there are no steps missing from my dying process which is from pain to suffering then death.

Therefore, I still don't want to face it. Or else, my soul will definitely be broken. But.... it won't be like this anymore. Since I have a new partner known as Loki,

he should be able to help me stabilize my soul…

“I am ready now Chef Head! Please be amazed, today I will also turn out to be a very delicious meal!”

“Oh, you’re quite determined. Did something good happen?”

“Ah, I should say that it’ll start from now……. Well, this will depend on Loki.”

“Loki…..A……Hey, Sei-kun, don’t tell me you are talking about that Loki-sama?”

“Yes, it is that Loki.”

The moment I answer it nonchalantly, Chef Head smiling face frozen. Instead it became surprised and then change to a poker face.

“……. Ah, actually I keep thinking that, the day will come where you’ll accomplish something big …… Maybe I miscalculate the time. We will hold a big farewell party for you so remember to inform us earlier okay.”

“Ha? A farewell party! I won’t leave this place you

know?"

"Eh? Hm, aren't you saying that you got scouted by Loki-sama?"

"We just become friends, that's all! My only master will be only you, Chef Head, so I'll be in your care!"

"Sei-kun….. I am so happy! I will also be in your care."

"Yes, Chef Head!"

"Then, please enter."

"Yes, Chef Head….."

Dong

"Arghhhhhhhhhhhhhh, burn to death—!!"

Bang

After a few minutes when the hellish lid covered the pot, at the same time as the sun set in the world, I was revived with a new body beside the stove. No matter how many times I experience it, there's no way I can to get rid of this horrible feeling.

I rested for a while in the spot due to the mana

consumption from activating 'Gullveig' and also fatigue from the new body formed. The Chef Head is controlling the stove temperature while laughing at me.

"Thanks you for your hard work, Sei-kun. How is the water temperature today? I didn't do much tonight since I'm testing the stove temperature at its highest."

"Ah? You remember what I said on the first day?"

"Hahaha! To be frank, we have a new temperature record after that! I actually asked Lord Odin to insert the rune of 'kenaz' in the stove."

"I remember that the rune of 'kenaz' is the fire rune. So that's why the fire is so strong…. Eh? Please wait a moment, Chef Head, there's no point in doing that right? No matter how strong the fire is, the water won't pass its boiling point."

"You're right, as long as it its boiling point isn't raised, no matter what water will never exceed one hundred degrees Celsius. But, Sei-kun, I never said that I use the rune of 'kenaz' to increase the fire power?"

“Then…..what you are saying is….”

“The rune of ‘kenaz’ is a rune to manipulate fire but it’s impossible to start up a fire without oxygen. That’s why the rune of ‘kenaz’ also controls the air. And this time I inserted both the rune of ‘kenaz’ and the ice rune, ‘isa’ into the stove.”

“You even put in the rune of ‘isa’!”

“Ya, by using the large volume of air produced by the rune of ‘kenaz’ combined with the power of the rune of ‘isa’ to control the air around the stove area, it’s possible to increase the heat of the pot which will also increase the boiling point. This way, we will be able to raise water temperature over hundred degrees Celsius.” [15]

I see…. So…… what does it mean?

“Based on your reaction, I think you don’t understand about it right? Well, there is not much of a problem, just inform me on your opinion of the water temperature?”

“Okay, to be frank it’s not bad. Basically I’ll die

immediately in that high temperature which will also lessen my mental stress. But a temperature that high will damage the taste of the meat…..”

“Well, you don’t have to worry. Didn’t I say that I have inserted the rune of ‘isa’ in the stove? I immediately used it to decrease the temperature the moment I confirmed that you’ve revived. It’s basically similar to changing the fire temperature. So, isn’t it perfect?”

“Amazing, that’s some amazing technique! Looks like there is something new in ‘Valhalla Kitchen’!”

“That’s right. This is all done to help lessen the sufferings Sei-kun faced, that why even if it just a bit, I want to help you die faster.”

“Chef Head! I am so grateful! To think that you did all this just to help this little old me…..”

“Sei-kun, it’s better if you don’t say “little old me” anymore. You are actually more important than you think, the one and only Sei-kun. You should know that you saved a large amount of livestock from being slaughtered due to your sacrifice every night. Of course the purpose of a livestock is to be eaten when

they get big but there is no livestock thinks that way. Life is precious even if they are able to live one extra second, who knows will they be eaten on the next morning. You who have been constantly eaten by the Einherjars deserved to be called as a Hero."

My body felt itchy when I heard the compliment from the Chef Head. But what he said is right, from the perspective of the livestock, I am definitely a Hero. No, not only livestock, to those Einherjars…. No… to those God who is feeding them, my existence is very important.

That should be correct. Because of 'that day', I was invite to 'Valhalla' since I was needed.

- One month before, at the 'Great Temple of Idavoll'

This is the sacred place where the great Aesir tribe uses to conduct their important meeting. In here, the important members of the tribe positioned around the big round rock table.

"Dear member of the Aesir and the mighty gods, first I would like to thank you all for attending this meeting after receiving the sudden invitation."

The one who began the talk is the oldest God who situated at the chief seat. With a bit curly white long hair and a moustache that brings out his sense of dignity, on his face there's a deep scar and his left eye is covered with a black eye-patch. He is the one leading the Aesir tribe, the Almighty Odin.

Sitting beside him is his sons, God of Light, Baldr and God of Thunder, Thor. Follow by God of War, Frey and Tyr, God of Art, Bragi and the brothers of Baldr, Höðr, Hermod and Vidar. And the person standing behind Odin is his step-brother, Loki[16].

"The reason why I gathered all of you is to discuss about the Einherjars that we're recruiting non-stop after hearing the prophecy about the end of the world 'Ragnarok' by sage Mimir. The main problem is –– their food."

Odin mentioned the topic without any hesitation. Actually this problem already existed and some of us already know that this will become a major problem soon.

"Haiz, it seems this matter is really unavoidable, guess

it's almost time for it to happen. Then, may I ask why did father invite this great me? Didn't you already have some countermeasures for it?

"Haha…. Thor, it's about time you learn how use your head for something else except head butting people. If I already had the countermeasure for it, I would have already mentioned it. This time the situation had already gone worse."

"HA! Don't look down on me, father. Other than head butting, I also know how to use my head for other things."

"Oh? Then tell me about it."

"For kneeling down."

"That is indeed important, looks like your relationship with your wife is quite good."

To think that I who was praised as a sage god actually have this foolish god as a son, Odin gave a sigh from his heart.

"The number of Einherjars that we recruited is going to exceed two hundred thousand. The food that we

brought from the God of Sea, Aegir for the purpose of the banquet is going to run out. Moreover, the gold that is needed to continue buying from him is also depleted and the food that Aegir had is also not unlimited. No matter what, we need to prepare a countermeasure for this……"

Odin let out a deep sigh, seems like the dignity that he has is dropping due to this matter kept troubling him.

"Lord Odin, although it might cause dismay, how about we try to reduce the portion?"

"Ah, I have already thought of that. But, Frey, the army of giants is huge and strong, if we have to fight them, the Einherjars that I estimated we need is going to be double of the current."

"Double the amount, um….. We really need a constructive countermeasure…."

Like this the meeting came in a halt. Even the wisest Odin couldn't think of a countermeasure, was there really any point gathering all the member here. From the beginning, it was actually pointless to hold this meeting.

……But, the person who originally did not have any hope gave a surprising opinion:

“Hey, what if we use that? Tanngrisnir and Tanngnjóstr.”

“…. Thor, I didn’t expect that you are the first one to give an opinion. If I’, not mistaken that are the two magic goats that help pull your chariot right?”

“Ah, as long as they receive the blessing from my great Mjölnir, they will revive infinitely. Thus, they can be eaten as many times as you like. Well. There’re two conditions which are their skin and skulls cannot be hurt.”

“Well, to be honest, this opinion is actually not bad. But… It’s impossible to prepare a way for the Einherjars to feast on which won’t damage their skulls and skin. In addition, it’s also pointless that you have to bring your Mjölnir to ‘Valhalla’ every time for dinner. It is a very constructive idea, but not realistic.”

“Is that so…. And I thought it was useful. Ah… Will this meeting ever end! Hey, Loki! Do you have any good ideas since you have been idling over there from the

beginning?"

Having his opinion rejected after thinking so hard, the unhappy Thor pointed at Loki. But he wasn't directing his anger toward him. Loki, who managed to tell a lie to the Odin who is known as the Sage god, was the most suitable person to unleash his ability in this situation. Everyone in the spot was expecting something from this tricky strategist.

"Ahh, please don't push all the problem on me, Thor. I'm keeping silent because I also don't have any good ideas. But I thought of something after hearing your opinion."

After hearing these words, all the desperate gods recovered looked at Loki with high expectation as if they were urging him to continue.

Loki shrugged his shoulders before continue talking:

"Not long before this, I heard something interesting from Ratatoskr. According to him, there is an immortal boar that lives somewhere in the forest of 'Idavoll'."

"An immortal boar?"

“Ah, there’s also this thing. For some reasons, that boar is in possession of an incredible treasure, according to Ratatoskr, it’s a pot which content will never run out.”

“What! Isn’t that the thing that we’re looking for? Loki, are you sure that information is accurate?”

“I just heard about this. I cannot confirm whether it’s real or not but it’s worth taking a trip right?”

Loki looked at the gods sat around the round table. There wasn’t a single god that rejected this idea.

“…… Then, it is decided. I believe the meeting will end here. If all of us go and visit the boar, I bet that will be frightening. So, the representative will be me and Loki, the others can go back to their own post.”

“Are you sure, father? Why don’t you let this great me go instead?”

“No, since it’s you, the “Red Lion Giant Slayer”, it will be impossible.”

“Oh….. So I was excluded right from the start because I am too scary. If that’s the case, then it’s better to bring Freya there.”

Thor walked out of the Great Temple after making an unsatisfied remark. Seeing his rude action that did not disgrace his nickname, all the gods present realized that Odin judgment was correct.

"….. Is that so, please wait for a moment, Hermod."

Loki suddenly got an idea after listening to the remark Thor made before he left and hurriedly called out to stop Hermod.

"There's something I want to ask for your assistance, can you prepare something special that can be used as a present? It doesn't matter even if you use Sleipnir. This is my own thinking but I believe we'll surely have some use for it since it's not an etiquette problem. The thing is…. You don't have to purposely deliver it to the forest. That right…. Let's ask Brynhildr to do it."

Hermod will do the preparation while the deliver will be handled by others. I wonder what the meaning behind this weird request from Loki? At this moment, no one was able to figure it out.

There is a lush green forest which is a short distance away on the southern part of the Great Temple. The

surprising thing is the forest of Idavoll is the last place that was unexplored in ‘Asgard’.

In this forest that is rich in natural resources; different kind of fruits can be found on the trees, the rustling sound of the grass, the water streams and the birds and insects flying freely. All of this show that this forest is overflowing with vitality.

After going through a fork in the road through this unexplored natural scenery, a big open space appears in front of our eye. There is an outer wall of a building that was covered with vines, and there’s trace that it has been used. Is this a building that was abandoned after built by someone in the past…..? There aren’t any old traces and it looks like a brand new wooden house.

“It doesn’t seem like it’s a house for a boar, I wonder is there anyone else living here.”

“I don’t know even if you ask me. Can’t big brother use your Hlidskjalf[17] to see it?

“It’s very troublesome. Of course, that seat can see everything but it’s impossible for it to show everything

in front of me right? It's only useful when there is a target for viewing, for example peeking at the women shower."

"What an amazing peeking tool…. Please let me try it next time. Then, let's try knocking on the door."

Dong Dong

"Ah? Who is it? I'm coming!"

"Oh, there's a reply. I wonder who will open the door, is it a snake, a ghost or a boar…."

Responding to Loki knocking, the door was opened by a boar with light green mane wearing an apron. There is another boar with dark green mane who is smoking while sitting on the sofa.

"Your lives are too normal! Hey, are you all really boar?"

"As you can see….?"

Well, there were no other possibilities, since in front of Loki there was without a doubt two boar. No choice but to accept the fact regardless of their life style.

Loki made a big cough as if to throw aside the cultural difference and asked them about his purpose:

“Ahem! That, I sorry for the sudden visit but are you the immortal boar?”

“Immortal? Ah, are you talking about Sei-chan?”

“Oi, Mama! How can you just casually said out our child name? What will we do if they are some scammers!”

“Ah, calm down, Papa. But don’t you see this gentleman eyes which have different are so pretty. Those who have pretty eyes can’t be scammers.”

“What is the point if it’s physically pretty? You really are…… Ahem, are both of you travelers? May I ask what are you doing in this area?”

“I come here after hearing that there’s an immortal boar here. Is it possible that boar is your child?”

“…… I am sorry, are you making a mistake? There is no such thing as an immortal living creature in this world. Even if there is one, then it won’t be a living creature right?”

“I actually heard about this from a very reliable source so I won’t be tricked by you. I know you’re doing it for the sake of your child, but isn’t it useless if you are hiding it? It doesn’t matter to us whether your child is a living creature or a monster.”

“You make it sound like I’m the bad guy, I’m not hiding anything. That’s because my child will also die normally, there is no such thing as an immortal body.”

“Is that so?..... It sounded like you’re saying your child who is supposed to die normally is still living as usual.”

“Eh... That.....!!”

The father boar panicked over what Loki said just now. It seemed Loki hit the bullseye, with this we were able to confirm the information from Ratatoskr.

“Hey! Isn’t it rare that we have guests?”

At this moment, there was a voice appeared behind of Loki. It sounded like it’s from either a young boy or a young girl.

It seemed the owner of the voice was actually a small boar. Looks like that small boar with dark brown mane

just came back while pulling a cart full of wild grass and fruit.

“Sei…… Why do you have to come back at this time!”

“Eh? Is there a problem? Who are these people actually…..”

“Oh, we’re not someone suspicious. Let us introduction ourselves first, I am Loki, and he is ……”

“……. Odin, you should have at least heard this name before right? The child of ‘Asgard’.”

Everyone present suddenly kneeled down while holding their breath after they heard the stern voice just now. No matter how rural, how young a child is, there is no one who doesn’t know the name of the God who rules over this land.

“Answer this, boar. I heard that you have a very rare ability. Is it true that you are…….. Immortal? And you own a magic pot.”

“Im….Immortal? Ah, it’s true that I have a magic pot. But I am not immortal actually, to be precise I am able to revive after death.”

“Revive? …… How could you do that?”

“How….. I actually don’t get it myself. It’s just that due to my carelessness I was bitten by poisonous snake and bug while gathering wild grass and fallen into river and valley, but for some reason I was able to revive myself every single time after that.”

“No matter how many times?”

“I’m afraid it’s unlimited.”

“Oh….. If that’s true then you really have some amazing ability. It’s like, yes, it reminds me of Gullveig-— you are called Sei right? I want you to bring your magic pot and come working for me.”

“Eh! I am honor! If I can be of use, please let me serve you! Then, what actually am I going to do?”

“You will come to ‘Valhalla’ and be dinner for the Einherjars.”

“‘Valhalla’? That is something amazing, I can’t believe I was invited to the palace of ‘Gladsheim’! ….Eh? I didn’t hear anything wrong, right? I think I heard I’m going to be dinner or something……..”

“You’re not wrong. From now onward, you are going to be served as meal every night.”

“Ha….?”

If Sei is a human being, his face will surely turn blue right now. His small body is shaking non-stop.

“Why…… does that mean that I… I…. I will die every night? Every single night for the rest of my life?”

“That’s correct.”

“Is that an….. order?”

“Of course.”

At this moment, Sei parents who were kneeling beside him use the rune of ‘mannaz’ to turn into human forms. They were no longer looking at Odin with respect but with resolve to sacrifice everything to protect their beloved one.

“Please stop, what are you two doing?”

“Shut up. How can you understand our feelings when we heard that our beloved son is ordered to keep dying?”

“I’m suffering too since I understand your feelings.”

Loki whispered with a voice that no one could hear while scratching his head. He took out a small tree branch from his arm and offered a surprising request to Odin:

“Oi, Big brother. I do not wish to see any blood in this sacred place of ‘Idavoll’, can we come back another time?”

“…… Loki, I don’t know what are you planning but are you sure? Wasn’t it your idea to use him? I feel that it’s too irresponsible if we leave now.”

“Well, my motto is to ‘Do things whenever I want’. Of course, I am not ordering you, but it just a personal request. How about we leave it to him to decide?”

“…. Okay, it will be a joke if we fought over the matter regarding the Einherjars. I guess I will act like a big brother and listen to my little brother once in a while. Little boar, I will let you have the opportunity to choose between living in this enclosed area until you rot or die with the greatest honor in the palace of the gods.”

“I…..I…..”

Odin words triggered something within Sei. If he rejected it now, he would be guarantee with a tranquil life like what he experienced up until now. A life without any dangers and encounters, was this what he really wanted?

If he accepted the offer, then he would have to experience death every single day. The price he had to pay to exit the forest was to enter the pot everyday which would mark the beginning of his chaotic days. Was this something worth paying with his life?

One more, there was still lacking one more reason to convince him to offer his body. No matter how many times Sei asked himself, he was unable to come out with an answer. Then, he looked at his surroundings.

(Father….Mother….!)

His parent, who loves him the most, cares for him the most and an existence that could not be lacking was carrying a resolve to protect him until the end. Sei began to feel the pain because whether he chooses to have a tranquil life or a chaotic life, he couldn’t regret

it.

Sei was thinking of a plan to make the uneasiness and the worries of his parent disappeared so that everyone can be happy. Right at this moment --

“Um… I’m sorry that I’m late, I brought the gift.”

Within this peaceful and quiet forest, there was a sweet voice that appeared as if flowers were blooming. Upon hearing the angelic like voice, everyone shifted their sights toward its owner.

The owner is a young lady with a waist length dress, light golden color hair and wearing a blue armor decorated with feathers. She is the Valkyrie who’s in charge of leading the dead warrior.

“Oh, Brynhildr! You finally came, we were waiting for you!”

“I’m very sorry, Loki-sama. It took some time to decide on the gift……..”

The lady who known as Brynhildr bow her head to apologize and took out the gift from the box on her hand. The gift that she took a long time to decide was a

necessity among the Gods, a golden apple.

“This is a golden apple that allows whoever eats it to be in a state of youth and immortal for a short while. Please accept this small gift from me.” After that, she put the apple in front of Sei.

Sei didn’t ever touch or look at it. He was only staring at the lovely smile of Brynhildr.

“Um.. Boar-kun, the apple….”

“Ha! Ya, I’m sorry! That…. Brynhildr-sama!”

“Hmm? What’s the matter?”

“Brynhildr-sama, um, what do you usually do?”

“Eh, normally? That, during the morning I will usually go to ‘Midgard’ and look for potential candidates, I will do some training at “Vingólf” during my off time. Then, every night I will go to ‘Valhalla’ to serve mead to the Einherjars.”

“You will go to ‘Valhalla’! Every single night?”

“Yes and yes.”

After bombarding Brynhildr with questions, Sei finally

stopped and take a deep breath.

After a short moment of silence, Sei hold the hands of the confused Brynhildr whom was still maintain the smile of her face to show that he had already made up his mind on the biggest decision in his whole life. Of course, there was some selfishness hidden in the decision.

“I will do it! Please let me ….. Be the meal for the Einherjars!”

-After something like that happen, this is the current situation that I am experiencing. Eh? What happen to my caring parent after that? Well there was nothing much, they just send me off normally. Their rebellious attitudes had been resolve by Loki.

The works after that is like what Lord Odin mentioned. To be honest, I’m still very afraid on the matter that I have to die every single night up until now and I’m afraid I won’t be able to change it.

Now I’m still holding onto my belief ‘No matter what I still have to do it’….. Of course, I’m doing it because of Brynhildr-sama. I actually don’t do this to help the

troubled Lord Odin and the Einherjars, nor am I helping to decrease the livestock that is slaughter every night or to become a hero. I'm doing all of this is because I've fallen in love at first sight with her.

I've fallen in love with Brynhildr-sama the first moment I met her on that day. No matter how, even just a little bit, I just want to get close to her. Now that I think of it, it might be one of Loki or some others person plan to invite Brynhildr-sama to the forest and I actually dancing in the palm on the planner. But I don't care about it because this is the answer that I decided on my own– I will never regret it.

"Chef Head! Is it okay if I go and look for Brynhildr-sama?"

"Oh? Of course! What happened, you finally decide to confess to her? Sei-kun, your main job in "Valhalla Kitchen" is to jump into the pot only. There is no need to ask for my permission, now quickly go before you changed your mind! Good luck!"

"YES!"

After Chef Head said that and hit my butt, I rush

straight ahead to the pantry. Well, if he did allow it, I will ask Hayes to help stall him while I run out.

In the pantry, all the nine sister of the Valkyrie had gathered. I immediately locked my eyes on the goddess who is wearing a blue armor! Without thinking anything, I rushed toward Brynhildr-sama and jumped to her breast, and this is without a doubt a true “Boar rush”.

“Ah, Sei! Did you purposely come to see me?”

The moment when I left the ground, my body was caught by a hand of someone else and I was put on her breast. This, this green breastplate and the way of speaking belong to….

“Hilde-sama! That, that, just now I make a big determination….”

“I know, you come to greet Witige right? A small guy like you will be step by the Einherjars the moment you enter the canteen, let me help bring you to Witige table.”

“Ah, that, thank you very much, Hilde-sama.”

Oh, I actually thought of this too. Looks like I don't even need to ask Brynhildr-sama for her help on this.....

".....'Hilde-sama'? Sei-kun, I wonder when did you get so close with Gerhilde."

"Ah! No, that, it's just that....."

Whoa, she's glaring at me with an unsatisfied look! It feels awesome no matter how many times I look at how Brynhildr-sama is glaring at me like this..... Wait, this is not a good thing! Looks like there's some misunderstanding!

"Ara. My dear older sister, why is your voice so soft? Is there any problem? My relationship with Sei-kun is better now after I received some lessons from him yesterday. I should say that we are very intimate already."

"Ho, intimate is it. Sei-kun, is that true?"

"Um.... That..... We're not that close and also not a stranger to each other.... Right?"

"Hmph! Come on, Sei, you don't have to be that shy.

Sei said that my beauty is the number one in the world, and he also mentioned that I transformed into the world most beautiful swan, right?”

“Wait, Hilde-sama, are you doing this on purpose?”

“If, if it wasn’t for me to ask for Sei-kun help……. I had enough already!”

Brynhildr-sama pouted and ran straight to the canteen area. Ahhhhh, why did something like this happen? So life really isn’t always smooth sailing.

“Ho Ho Ho, my dear older sister is just like a kid. She’s very shy when it comes to romance…. Is this something good? Come, let go and meet Witige, Sei.”

“Yes….. Isn’t Hilde-sama also acting like a kid, don’t you think you are saying too much just now? Hm?”

I expected Hilde-sama to have a satisfied devilish look after finally beating her sister for once, instead she is giving off a gentle feeling while looking toward her sister.

Oh… It seems Hilde-sama does not really hate Brynhildr-sama. I should say that Hilde-sama actually like, respect and worry about Brynhildr-sama the most, but due to her prideful attitude, she cannot be frank with herself.

(She still can’t take her eyes off heh…)

The over worried older sister and the meddlesome younger sister, if possible I want to be the middle person to help them. I forced a smile due to the increasing desires, and walked toward the noisy canteen with Hilde-sama.

‘Valhalla Canteen’, this is the only place in ‘Valhalla’ that causes others to feel that they are still inside ‘Gladsheim’, a luxury facility.

The ceiling of the canteen is so tall it can make a person open his mouth wide and there is a few huge chandeliers hanging on the wall which give off a gentle light that illuminate the whole canteen. On top of the red velvet carpet, there is a long table that can fit an unknown number of people. On top of the table, there is huge container arranged neatly with a gap between each other, and inside the container is my meat which was taken out from the pot.

I’m not sure the maximum number of the people it can serve but I remember that it goes to the extent of few hundred thousand. Now since the number of people is too many, I think there will be another expansion soon.

In the middle of this noisy place, the nine Valkyrie sisters are busy running around. Even though in term of physics it’s impossible for nine people to serve this much people, but they still try their best to serve mead

to as many Einherjars as they can.

Let see where Brynhildr-sama who stepped out angrily is…. Ah, she is over there while still being angry. Looks like she is punishing those perverts, whom she will normally give a smile and forgive, with her sword harshly. Brynhildr-sama, why don't you teach them how it feels to get slashed by a sword since you have the opportunity.

"That, Witige….. Witige….. Ah, he should be around here."

After sensing the presence of Witige, Gerhilde-sama flied off to the corner near the entrance of the canteen while carrying me. I also saw Witige when we were getting closer.

"Witige!"

"Oh, isn't is Gerhilde-sama? It seemx you are with the boar-sama that we met just now."

"Boar-sama? Ah, I'm sorry, it seem that I haven't introduce myself right? My name is Sæhrímnir. I am trainee of the chef in charge of the canteen. Because

my name is too long, please call me Sei instead."

"You are being too polite, Sei-sama. Since I already reach an age that forgot thing easily, I am very grateful that you prepare a shorter name for me. Please take care of me in the future."

I who was under the table shook hand with Witige. Witige is giving off an aura that is different from those barbaric Einherjars. Is it because of his age…. No, this is the so-called aura of a true strong person.

Witige took a sip on the mead served by Hilde-sama, after that she left to continue her work.

"Oh… this is so delicious. I never had alcohol this good before living so long as a half-dwarf in my life."

"Indeed it's delicious, let me inform you that this high grade mead managed to catch the attention of Lord Odin. I can boast that the producer of this mead started to work on the same time as me."

"That is something you can indeed boast about. But don't Sei-sama feel terrible that that worker is producing a better result than you?"

“Nope, not even a single cell of me thinks that way. Moreover, it sounds a bit wrong coming from me but the worker and I are both recognized as the ‘Big Two’ in the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’.”

“Oh? I thought you are only a trainee, may I ask what you mean by that….”

“Um… Witige have you eaten the meal yet?”

“I took a bit before the greeting, the meal still cannot beat the mead in term of taste. The moment I take a bite, it gave off something that energizes my whole body…. Don’t tell me that this Sei-sama creation?”

“No, it’s a bit different. That is me.”

“…..Huh?”

Oh, he is surprise. I explained the matter about my special ability ‘Gullveig’ to Witige who was opening his mouth wide.

“I understand now…. You are the unlimited meal that can revive when the sun set. The person who managed to think of this is really amazing and brilliant. Normally I won’t hesitate when eating a livestock but

it's a difference thing when it involved Sei-sama which can speak human language. I feel a bit scared eating this meal."

"Ah! That, I appreciate that you concern about me but the meal you're eating is just normal meat…. I hope you can finish it without leaving a stain."

"Okay….. I understand now, I think any livestock will also said the same thing if we can communicate. Since you put it that way, it makes me want to eat it already."

Oh, it's nice that he understand. Actually what I said doesn't represent the will of all the livestock, but there is no point not eating those whose purpose is to be eaten by others. Since we're going to be eaten anyway, it's better that we can let them enjoy eating us.

"But…. not that I don't trust you but is this really Sei-sama meat?"

"Eh? What do you mean?"

"If the meat in this container belongs to Sei-sama then isn't it a bit odd since Sei-sama have a small body?"

“Oh, about this, actually the secret lies on the ‘pot’ that I was cook in.”

“Pot? Is it a custom make object?”

“Yep, the pot is called ‘The treasure of the kitchen, Eldhrimnir’…”

I told Witige that I was carrying the pot with me since I was small. Similar to the pot auto cook function, there is also a condition to not decrease the content in it. I also told Witige the matter about Lord Odin purposely come to the forest I lived in just because of this pot.

“Whoa, it’s quite impressive that there won’t be any issues when using it to prepare dinner. I think the person who created this pot must be a famous and skilled blacksmith.”

Witige is more excited to know the creator of the pot than the pot itself. If I’m not mistaken, his father is also an amazing blacksmith, maybe this is the reason why he is so keen on it?”

“Oh, the thing is…. I don’t know who created it. This is because when I was abandoned by my real parent, I

was put inside the pot."

"Abandon.... Please forgive me for asking this, is Sei-sama an orphan?"

"It's something like that. It doesn't matter now, since I don't have a single memory before I was adopted by my foster parent, I doesn't even have a single thing to grief on. Even though we are not blood-related, the current parent cares for me.... I also somehow feel quite joyful."

This is not some lies that I created or anything to boast about, this is just what I really feel. I also think before that my real parent really did care for me but it might due to some circumstances where they were forced to abandon me.

This is because, there was a note with my name, the name of pot and instruction of how to use the pot, in the pot with me at that time. Maybe my real parent did this to decrease the burden of my foster parent or they want to increase the chance of me being adopted and this is also something like a caring message to me. That's why I believe I am blessed.

“In my opinion, there is nothing that can win over a parent love. I believe that Sei-sama love toward your real parent and foster parent is the strongest and it cannot be matched. The extraordinary aura I felt when we first met might not be my misconception after all.”

After said that, he put some meat on his plate. The meat that has been eaten satisfyingly by the other Einherjars has become his meals now.

I never expected that I was a strong person before, but it seems there is no reason to ask the black swordsman about this either. From the bottom of my heart, I hope that after everyone who had ate my meat can become strong.

“Oh, this is really delicious. The delicious part of the meat makes me want to know more…..”

“Know about what?”

“The pot or some hidden power that still lies dormant in Sei-sama.”

“Hidden power? This is quite interesting, why do you

say that?"

"Please think carefully, to be able to revive and the content will not decrease..... There is actually no common point for these two points. But how is it that Sei-sama meat can still be so delicious?"

"You're right. If I know about that, I might be able to make myself more delicious....."

"Oh, if we had to make a hypothesis now, I would say that Sei-sama real parent have a close relationship with a skilled dwarf. This is because there is no one other than the dwarf who can create such a magic pot."

"The dwarf can even make a pot?"

"Ho ho, dwarf blacksmith doen't only create those weapon fill with blood lust. With the appropriate material and some creativity, they can create anything from a wig to a huge battle ship, even creating a living creature such as a horse or a boar is not a problem of them. This is the secret technique of the dwarf."

Is that so... he is right. This is because Freya-sama

Skíðblaðnir and Gullinbursti are also the creation of the dwarf.

“Since you put it that way…… Does it mean that I might be created by them too?”

“No, there is no way. The dwarf needs the god permissions when creating living things. If there was no god that knows about the existence of Sei-sama, that means that you’re a real and authentic boar. That why this is so interesting. Everything has a power that is similar to the sun and the moon but this fated pairing between an unknown magic pot and the unknown boar is more interesting.”

I know for sure it’s because of the dwarf blood in Witige but it seems he couldn’t stop mumbling about his excitement while nodding his head non-stop.

To be honest, I’m not so interested in it. The matter we’re discussing should be about my true identity, but I felt like it had become another person’s problem.

As if I subconsciously refused to retrieve memories of the past… or somewhere in me, I felt that there is no point in finding it.

But… If the magic pot, which is the opposite of me, is prepared just to cook me…..

Let's forget about it, it would never stop if I continued thinking. I tossed away all the mystery and truth to a side by using the god level ignoring skill that I have mastered.

Chapter 5 - Color of The Mysterious Gullveig

Time sure flies, it's been a week since we came back from 'Midgard'. Nothing much happened after that, the world is at peace again. My body almost got used to the daily routine of dying and reviving too.

Now I'm just waiting to see whether Loki will bring any interesting news but I heard nothing from him these few days. Although this is a bit too much to wish for but a life where nothing happens like this is boring.

For your information, it's not I dislike this type of peaceful life. After I get to know about Heimdallr-sama and his gullible personality, I felt that it's a miracle that we can have this type of boring and peaceful time.

At this moment, there is a problem that I'm facing. This is the problem that happened after we came back and it's the only one that I haven't solved yet.

"*sniff sniff*..... I still couldn't talk to Brynhildr-

sama……”

That’s right, this is the problem. This is a life and death issue literally because Brynhildr-sama is my only reason to come here to die every night. Ah~, who would have thought that the price I have to pay to get closer to Hilde-sama is the relationship between me and Brynhildr-sama ……..

No, I can still solve it. The proof is that Brynhildr-sama sometime walked toward me after that incident and I also did the same thing. Due to the time constraint, we only passed by each other only.

“No, this cannot go on forever. Today, I must talk it out with Brynhildr-sama and resolve the misunderstanding caused by Hilde-sama! Maybe I will also propose to her and discuss on our future plan together!”

I’m not sure if it is due to this misunderstanding, my brain is filled with perverted family plan. The lines for propose is:

“Why don’t we jump in the pot together?” Good, this is perfect!

This is not the time for my morning jogging! I have to go to 'Vingólf' and find Brynhildr-sama immediately! After I stomped my hoof to begin my war, I rush out of my room immediately.

The moment when I was going to turn in the corridor after leaving my room, there was an unknown voice coming from behind me:

"Ah, Sei-kun! What a coincidence, there's something I want to discuss with you actually."

"I'm sorry, I'm in a hurry now. Can we talk later?"

"Ah… is that so, it's my bad since I come to find you without making an appointment. I am sorry…. I see you later then…"

After I kindly declined so that I could proceed with my trip, Brynhildr-sama lower her head and run away with a sad face. Even though it's pitiful but there is no choice now. Now I will become a demon and cut down everything that blocks my path, I have to hurry up and find Brynhildr-sama. This is my mission!

Ah, I wonder where Brynhildr-sama is right now.

Somehow I thought I heard her voice just now, don't tell me she came to 'Valhalla'?

……A… Ah, wait a moment. What did I say just now? Just now…. What did I do after I heard Brynhildr-sama voice? Eh, wait, you got to be kidding me? Did….Did I just drive away Brynhildr-sama….?

"Please wait for me, Brynhildr-sama!!!"

…She's already gone, I tried to hurry back but looks like it's pointless. Brynhildr-sama is gone now, I cannot even smell her fragment in the corridor anymore.

"AH!!!!!!!! What stupid thing have I done just now! Stupid Sei! Go die a billion times already!!"

I voiced out the anger at myself, and I kept slamming my head on the wall like a woodpecker. Even though you[18] are not at fault but please forgive me until I could release all my anger!

"What! Hey, Sei, is your brain malfunctioning already? What are you doing so early in the morning?"

Just at this moment, Loki came out of nowhere and

grabbed hold of me.

“Oh, Loki, long time no seen. But please don’t stop me now, I have to go squat ten billion times as punishment.”

“Why are you doing this? You better calm down now! Now, tell me what happen?”

I had no choice since Loki was trying his best to calm me down, I took a deep breath first. After calming down, I told Loki the whole matter in details.

“Oh, so the relationship between you and Brynhildr….. I see now, something likes this happen after that day.

Loki sit with his leg cross after that. With his finger below his chin and nodding his head, he also looked at me who was on top of this lap frequently.

“Oi, Sei that mean your only one is Brynhildr-sama right?”

“Eh? Only one, I don’t dare….. Well, that is the case.”

“Don’t grumble, you are not a young girl. Brynhildr is not bad but I will choose the fourth sister, Waltraute

instead."

"Waltraute-sama? That is good! Her breast is the biggest among all her sisters."

"That's right, doesn't it make you want to hug her? There is also Ortlinde who has an unexpected sexy body."

"Oh, Ortlinde-sama. She is quite flirtatious and she is a bit similar to Hayes in that situation. It's not that she's very young but the ways she speaks give people a throb. In that case, the third sister is more frightening."

"Don't you understand it well too? Did you know about this? Let me share a secret with you... Ah, damn, I suddenly forgot what the name of that boar, that, the golden one with Frey."

Golden... Ah! I can't believe that that fellow name is forgotten by Loki! Even though he is one the six greatest creations by the dwarf but his existence is quite weak.

Well... Even I can't make Loki to memorize my full

name.....

“Perhaps you are referring to Gullinbursti?”

“Yes, that one! From what I know that fellow called Gullinbursti is quite dedicate to the ninth sister, Rossweisse.”

“OH! Where did you get that from?”

“Ho, I cannot reveal my source, but it’s quite reliable.”

“Hm... So Loki information network is quite impressive. That means that fellow is a lolicon. Well, I do understand his feeling too but if he were really a lolicon, he would choose Helmwige-sama instead. I think he was attracted by the pure and honest side of her... if that’s the case, there’s a possibility that he might also be interested in the fifth sister, Schwertleite-sama. The fact that she doesn’t know the filthy part of the world is something worth to adapt with.”

“Adapt? Looks like your interest is also quite special. But she is quite scary when she gets angry. Helmwige is also quite similar.... No, she is the scariest once she

takes off her mask."

"You mean the eighth sister, Helmwige-sama? Actually, Loki, there is something I'm quite interested in, why is she keep wearing the mask? What would happen once she took it off?"

"Her attitude will change and it's a 180° change. Well, there is a chance for you to see it once if you're still staying at 'Valhalla Kitchen'..... Who else other than those two that we haven't mention?"

"Hm....Ah, Siegrune-sama."

"For her, everything is good."

"I think so too."

"Wait! This is weird! Why are you treating me so weird, what do you mean by that!"

"Whoa! Siegrune-sama! Why are you here?"

"Ah, I forgot, I'm the one who called for her."

Loki raised his hand while showing a mischievous smile. It's not cute even if you showed this type of expression! Wait, I should hurry up and explain to

Siegrune-sama instead!

“Siegrune-sama is very cute.”[19]

“Are you making fun of me? I never heard of such effortless praise in my life. I can’t believe I’m being look down on by a boar.”

Looks like the plan of explaining nicely to her backfired. Siegrune-sama’s anger has changed to confusion and she let out a deep sigh at the same time. It’s so weird, I actually said that from the bottom of my heart but for some reason it changed to monotone.

A…. I still don’t understand how it became like this.

“I’m not looking down on you or anything! I really think that Siegrune-sama is cute from the bottom of my heart.”

“Hee, you are quite cunning but it’s obvious you’re lying!”

“Please believe me, I’m not lying! I swear to god!”

“Is that so? Then why did you say that everything is good just now?”

“This is because Siegrune-sama reaction is the cutest when she’s being made fun of.”

“Make fun? As I expected that something is weird from the start! What is the reason for you to make fun of me! Also….Yeah! That, I am always the cutest, so there is no reason for you to make fun of me right.”

“Actually there is a reason? You just didn’t realize that the reaction you make is quite cute and together with the self-satisfied face, it makes you super cute.”

“Ha! How is that possible! There is no way for me to show a cute response!”

“This reaction is actually considered cute…..”

“This also works? Ah, hey, wait, stupid! Don’t look this way!”

Siegrune-sama, who felt embarrassing after being called cute continuously, used her pride golden twin tails to cover her face and squatted down.

Ah, this is it, this, this is the reason why people wants to make fun of her. It seems like I need to stop this since I don’t want her to hate me.

“So Loki, why did you come here so early? And you even called for Siegrune-sama also.”

I decided to change the topic to end the previous one. After the sudden conversation just now, Loki remained calm and snapped his finger said:

“Ah, that, Sei, can you please die for me?”

“Can you not say that politely?”

“Hehehehe…. Then go DIE!”

“Even if you put on a special face but no is no! Please start with a good explaination!”

“Ah, yes, actually it likes this. About your revive ability that you called ‘Gullveig’? Loki-sama actually plans to investigate it in detail about the activation conditions.”

Siegrune-sama with her face still covered, stood up and gave an explanation to replace Loki joke. Is that so, then I understand now but it’s a pity, I won’t die voluntary after knowing the reason. Everything from worm, cricket and Daphnia also wish to live, even if a boar that can revive from death also won’t choose to

die without any reasons.

“Looks like you’re showing quite a dissatisfied face, Sei. Then let me spill out the information that I gotten just now, this way you will choose death.”

“He, that is quite interesting, I’ll try to listen.”

“Just now… you “chase away Brynhildr who purposely came to see you” right?”

“Damnit! Let me go die a few times!!!”

The magic words that make me want to choose death….. to me, this is much more effective than the rune of death ‘eihwaz’.

After a while, we shift our location to the east side of ‘Asgard’ which is in the middle of ‘Vigrid’ vast plain. Our destination is on the east side of here, in the end of the horizon.

We are going there due to Loki request since ‘Asgard’ is surrounded by the branch of the world tree ‘Læraðr’ and it floats on the sky likes a bird nest. But Læraðr is situated on the west side from here, that’s why most of the important function of Gladsheim is build there.

In other words…. There is nothing to be seen on the east side and no one will bother to come to this place.

“Is it necessary to be so careful when testing the conditions for ‘Gullveig’?”

“Who knows, there are too many uncertainties. Well my motto is ‘better safe than sorry’. Maybe after we solved this uncertainty, we might change the whole world.”

His sharp eye is giving off a spark and the low pitch voice sound like he is giving off a threat. The current Loki does not seem to be joking at all……. I tried to use a humorous tone to calm thing down as it was starting to scare me:

“You are said that a million times, is that even possible?”

“Is that your real thought? That means you haven’t study enough….. Okay, let’s talk while walking, now I will say something about the secret of history. Siegrune, you should also listen, you might become better than your other sisters.”

“Ah? Is that true? I also want to hear it!”

Siegrune-sama panting was so much exaggeration than the time when I was mistaken as a pervert by Grani-kun. I wonder this for a long time already, does she has a sense of inferiority among her sisters?

Well, each of the nine sisters of the Valkyrie has their own specialty. Siegrune-sama is quite talented in rune magic that she won’t lose to anyone. It’d be much better if she can be more confidence…. Eh? Breast? [20] Ha… If I not mistaken when compare to the other sisters, Siegrune-sama chest is quite normal. Even when she is wearing her armor, it is quite small. Don’t tell me…..

“What are you doing? Where are you looking at, Sei? You’d better listen carefully to what Loki-sama is saying.”

“Yes!”

Not good, I cannot simply make an observation without witness the real thing. This is my so-call gentleman spirit.

After I was prepared, Loki began to tell his story:

“A time long long ago– when Odin was still a little brat, the relationship between the Jotun and the god community was quite close but due to one matter that led to the continuously skirmishes to occur. That matter was … lifespan.”

“Lifespan? That lifespan? The life from the moment you were born until you die, that life span?”

“Yes, Siegrune. You all know about it right? There is no end to the lifespan of a Jotun. They were born in an adult appearance and never age which made the god community to be jealous of their unlimited life span. This is here where the problem occurs. The golden apple, which can stop aging, is the main objective of the gods which lead to the war with the Jotun and it is an inevitable fate in this world. You better remember this as this is oldest battle in the world which is known as ‘The hunt of Ymir’.

‘The hunt of Ymir’…… I saw this once when I was reading one of the ancient literatures which was damaged by bugs. This is the battle that led to the

never ending war between the Aesir tribe and the Jotun, so this is the reason that started all of this....

Even though Loki said that this is fate, but is it really fate? If the Jotun gave the unwanted thing to the God community, then this war should be able to be avoided.

No..... This is proof that it is inevitable since such a simple action couldn't be done.

"In the end, the 'Hunt of Ymir' concluded as the victory for the God, Odin used the remains of the Jotun King, Ymir to create 'Midgard'. The Gods was happy as they are in possession of the golden apple but due to the world, the tree was chopped down.... Odin had already growth old while waiting for the tree to borne fruit after planting the seeds. That is the reason why Odin looks so old."

"Hee! This story seems quite interesting!"

"Right? But, to avoid any misunderstanding, let me explain something now. Actually the golden apple does not prevent aging, it just help you to maintain young. This is because your body is still aging, if you

don't eat the apple once in a while, then you will look like your real age. Well, once you eat it again, you will revert back to the young state after a while. We called this the addicted to apple, currently in 'Asgard', I'm the only one who is not addicted to it."

"Eh. What do you mean by that? Loki didn't eat the golden apple?"

"Well, yes."

"Hee…. Oh? Then how about Siegrune-sama?"

"Eh? Me? Of course I ate it, if not I would become a grandma already."

"The old Siegrune-sama….."

I try to imagine it in my brain and immediately a face of an old grandma appears.

"Haha, there will always be a feeling when you're similar to others."

"What do you mean by that! And don't just simply imagine it! Why don't you think about the others!"

"If you said that….."

Ah, no! I cannot bear to imagine the old appearance of Brynhildr-sama! This is because she will always be this cute! She will be my Venus forever!

But, I won't even change my feeling even if she is an elderly person.

"Loki, I feel that you are quite educated. You understand so many ancient histories even though you are so young."

"Young? Me?"

Loki was shocked when he heard that. I also made the same expression seeing it.

"Eh? Is that wrong? Because if Loki hadn't eaten the golden apple, then your young appearance right now should be the real thing. That means there isn't much age gap between us?"

"Haha, you made a mistake there, Sei. You do know that I am the step-brother of Odin, right? I'm neither his adopted son nor his grandson. There isn't much age gap between me and Odin."

"Then that mean....?"

There isn't much age gap with Lord Odin, the oldest god..... Which is to say that he is one of the God that exists since the beginning of time. But he didn't depend on the golden apple to stay young.... Don't tell me that he is some kind of spirit!

"He.... It is like what you think, my father is a Jotun and my mother is an Aesir God, even though I still age but it's much slower when compare to others. In another word, I have half immunity to aging."

"Eh---! Loki is a mixed blood between a Jotun and a God? I really can't see the similarity!"

"Ha! You observation skill is too poor! ...*cough* Well, let put that aside. We don't want to stray too far from our topic. What I want to said is that 'The desire to achieve eternal life created the current history'. Your 'Gullveig' doesn't cause immortality nor eternal youth, but it's sort of something similar to that. It will be bad if some evil person witness the true power of your ability when we analyze it, if it's something useful..... Who know you might be the second apple."

The second apple..... If that is the case, I believe my

condition will be much harsher than now. Since we don't know who will have these kind of evil thoughts, it's much better to let someone trustworthy to conduct this experiment secretly.

"Thank you for worrying about me, Loki. The former me is too ignorant."

"Ho, good that you understand. Now let start our experiments."

"Oh!"

Now..... what are we going to do to test 'Gullveig'? Well obviously I didn't have any plan since I'm just following them. I think that Loki should have thought of something since he started it, let me try asking him. Loki is secretly giving hint to Siegrune-sama by using his eye. I see now, it mean that he will leave it to Siegrune-sama to handle it.

"We better determine which part we want to experiment first to find the ability true power. From what I discussed with Loki, the thing we want to experiment on is the activation condition and the structure of the ability."

“Oh. Which is to said..... What does it mean?

“You..... Forget about it, let’s just do it step by step. Then, please die first.”

Ouch, she just said the most frightening phrase in such a straightforward attitude. Toward other people they would first think if they misheard when someone told them to die. But.... unfortunately, it’s a usual thing for me.

“Eh? Sei, did you hear what I said? You’d better listen carefully now, after I count to three, please jump down from there. If not then I will do it for you myself, okay?”

“Please wait a moment! Please let me settle down first, I want to be the one who determines my own death.”

“Then how long are you going to take? Ha, now go do it quickly. Don’t worry, it won’t hurt at all.”

That’s obviously a lie! It’s written all over your face! Even if it doesn’t hurt, I will still die from the heat, she definitely wants to make me a roasted boar!

“Ah, that’s right! If I die now, what would happen to

the dinner for the Einherjars tonight? I am sorry, Loki, like what I mention previously, I definitely don't want a life cycle which I have the die the moment where I was revive. That why let us stop this experiment now!"

"Such a pity, Sei. You thought I was idling for the past week, right? The answer is quite simple, to fulfill the condition for experiment of 'Gullveig', I have already discussed with all the person in charge to let you change your shift. That's why from today onward, we have a maximum time of five days for the experiment, in the meantime, Thor will use his goat to replace you for the Einherjars dinner."

"Woah, so amazing, I don't have any way to run away already."

The strong feeling of despair is starting to appear, my feet are slowly moving backward. I was forced to the most eastern end of 'Asgard' which means I'm standing on a cliff.[21] I will reach 'Midgard' without using Bifröst if I jump from here, but my spirit will separate from my body and enter the realm of death

‘Helheim’. Even though I can revive soon, but the moment of death is painful.– BUT!

“Ah, this is no difference from jumping into the pot! It’s the same as usual! Sæhrímnir, think about the anger toward yourself! For the sake of Brynhildr-sama…… GO DIE ONCE!!”

After I made up my mind, I jumped down. I relaxed my body when I felt an indescribable feeling appeared in my lower abdomen, I tried to enjoy this moment which is similar to parachuting.

That’s right, let me tell you something, since there won’t be much time until I hit the ground. I made friend with a crane and we talked for a bit. The crane is a good listener and a good speaker.

I hope…. There won’t be any issue with that crane after he saw me die.

After that, the hellish experiments which required me to die every evening had finally come to the fifth is the last day.

“Thanks for the hard work, Sei. You were really

hardworking for these past few days, I have a better opinion of you now."

"Ah, to be praised by Siegrune-sama is a great honor! This time I have gotten a meaningful memory other than jumping into the pot. Then… How was the result of these experiments?"

When I ask this, Siegrune-sama looked at Loki and revealed a smile. That was a smile filled with the sense of accomplishment…. If that's the case, then they've come up with a conclusion.

"Rest assured, we were able to understand a lot of things because of you. First is the structure of the ability… It is proven that you were not born with it, but from a rune magic. I was called to do the experiment on it, I could relax now since I had successfully finish the task." Siegrune-sama had a very bright expression.

Oh…. During these past five days, didn't Siegrune-sama opinion toward me change a bit? She seems to be nicer a bit ….. It's good thing we could communicate with each other, but I am not sure whether if it's a good thing if we improved our relationship.

After I got closer with Hilde-sama, I ended up getting more distance with Brynhildr-sama. I'm not even sure if we will get more distance in this situation. Well…. Worrying about the situation is a bit…… no, it's quite troublesome.

"Hey, Sei, the smile you showed just now is quite disgusting. This lady is purposely talking to you, you better paid attention to me gratefully."

"Ah, I'm sorry, please continue your topic."

"Oh. Then, it seems there are two runes writing which are responsible for activating the runic magic to activate the revival ability. It's just that…. I never thought that the two writing is 'feoh' and 'dakaz'. I think you can understand without me explaining, the nature of the runic magic is based on the magic word 'rune', from numerous phenomenon and facts, which are used as a medium to activate the arcane. In another words, there would not be any result if a meaningless rune was used. Your ability is revival, the rune 'eihwaz' should be the correct rune to use, but in this case it is different."

“Hee, then can I ask what is the meaning of ‘feoh’ and ‘dakaz’?”

“’feoh’ mean livestock. This can also mean extending one’s wealth. ‘dakaz’ mean one day, which is the word that govern the beginning and the end of a story and it is quite close with the ‘eihwaz’. Well, no matter what…. You are the ace of livestock, and your ability can only activate the moment the sun set. Other than nocturnal animal, then end of a day is when the sun set. That’s why I feel like it’s not necessary a mistaken for the usage of these two words.”

“Then, that, my ‘Gullveig’ activation time is definitely during the sun set right?”

I’m more excited when Siegrune-sama mentioned this. That’s because before this, Loki told me that my activation time might not be during the sunset.

“Yes, there is no way to make a full testing on it. However, based on trial and error method, the highest possibility for the time is during the sunset. Here are the things we have proven, the first thing: ‘It’s not 6pm.’ the movement of the sun is strictly handle by

Sola-sama, even if there is a few seconds error, the sunset for 'Asgard' is not usually 6pm. We have already proven it when we purposely ask Sola-sama to delay the sunset for one minute."

"Is, is that even possible?"

"Hehehe, this type of thing is like a child play for this great me."

Loki said that proudly while looking at the shocked me. This God is too unpredictable, I never heard a thing like stop the sun movement before, I didn't expect him to really do it... This person is really quite brilliant and I actually quite respect him. I also want to be a great person like him someday.

"Seriously, Loki-sama will always do these kind of surprising things.... Who knows, he might destroy the Moon and the Sun? Well, let put that aside, because the sun set was delay, Mani-sama already risen the moon to the sky before sunset. In a few moment after that, Sei, you revive at the exact moment when the sun set--which eliminate two possibilities. The two possibilities are 'when the moon rise' and 'the moment

when there is no moon and sun'. Loki-sama also thought of the possibility 'End of the day', but it is much more difficult to conduct this experiment.... That is because as long as the sun does not set, the day won't end right? That's why it is another matter when we use the concept of time to distinguish it. So, the experiment will end now."

After saying that, Siegrune-sama slowly stretched out her hand. When I thought that I can relax a bit when the topic is over, Loki further continued the topic:

"Actually there is another thing. We also can pinpoint your revival location when your 'Gullveig' activate."

"The revival location? Does that mean the place where I will be revived?"

"That's right. Sei during these five days, the finding from the experiment where you commit suicide by jumping off the cliff in the horizon toward 'Midgard'..... Is not like what I expected. If you are going to revive near your corpse then, you will sure revive at 'Midgard' then. Actually, you were revived at the same spot before you jumped off. It stirred my

interest, so after you jumped off, I used my magic to create a sea of fire in this area. But the spot where you revived was the safe spot that I designated. Do you know what this mean?"

"I completely don't get it."

"Why don't you use your tiny brain and think about it…. You jumped down from here and died when you hit the ground, so we could say that 'Midgard' killed you right? In another word, your death is caused by 'Midgard'. Then, it's because you hate 'Midgard' who caused your death and it's impossible for you to revive in the sky, so you were revived in the place before you jump. Furthermore, if there is any danger in that place, you can avoid it and revive in that safe spot. So, do you understand what I said up until now?"

"Oh… so that means my revival location is 'a safe place which is the closest to my corpse'."

If I think carefully, that seems to be correct. If I were to revive in the pot which I jump into, then it is pointless. Looks like my 'Gullveig' had help to solve that problem.

…. Thus these are all the results from the five days experiment, Loki concluded the end of it. My 'Gullveig' is a rare and useful ability, but there isn't much feature to it. Thus, tomorrow this world will be yet another peaceful day.

This is indeed a gratifying matter…. And I have yet another strange thought: I wonder what would happen if I discovered the reason why I have this ability.

As long as the condition is fulfill, the revival magic will activate automatically– if this isn't something I was born with, that means someone out there bestowed this amazing magic on me. Maybe there is some secret behind it which is out of our imagination.

With this I feel that this is a secret I should never discover. If that secret is revealed, the chance of me becoming the second apple is quite high. There is over millions hidden secrets in this world, it won't be bad even if the world is full of lie. This is because a world full of lie is also a world full of happiness.

"Okay then, it's almost time for me to go now, I miss my soft and comfortable bed already."

“Haha, well you have been camping out for five day straight. I think that Siegrune-sama also wish to take a bath right?”

“Eh? I’m not that slovenly, since I’m a girl after all.”

“Ah? Does that mean you bath every day?”

“Of course. You see…. Basically I just need to use the rune of the four elements, then most of the problem is solve. You better remember this then.”

“…”

“Ho, that mean, Siegrune-sama has been secretly taking a shower every day. Damn… when did she go to take it? Loki should be keep watching over this area with his big eyes open. How is it possible that he did not discover this? It’s obvious he will be ready to peep when the time comes……

“Well, I used the rune of ‘Peorth’ to hide myself when I bathing. Well, since I am the person who ‘everything is good’, so I’m not so serious.”

“That is no so good!”

“!!”

After Loki and Siegrune-sama saw my abnormal appearance, both of them swallow their saliva at the same time.

Good, I managed to attract their attentions. The decisive moment is at hand, now I just have to begin my one man show to continue on the lie with Gods!

“That is no so good! Siegrune-sama, you just ran off without telling any one of us and you used the rune to hide your body. This is such a foolish act! What if something happened and we couldn’t contact you immediately! Please have more trust in us next time! From now on, please inform us properly if you plan to go shower. ….. Can you promise me that?”

“Sei…. I understand now, I promise. I will properly inform you all when I go shower next time.”

“You also need to inform us when you use the toilet?”

“Ah! Um… Sei, I can’t believe you can say that, then I will also do that.”

Siegrune-sama promised shyly. I found Loki was

looking at me with a ‘You are such a genius’ look at the edge of my view. Ah, it’s not something tha impressive.

“That…..”

While I was having a conversation using our eyes with Loki, Siegrune-sama crossed her arm shyly and said,

“Before we go back, that….. I’m going to go ….. pluck a flower…… so don’t follow me. I am serious!”

Siegrune-sama with a blush face, quickly went to somewhere. I wonder where she is going. Why didn't I thought about this, isn't that obvious from the start!

"Let's go, Loki. Currently she is -- defenseless."

"I will follow you till the end of the earth, partner."

Like this, the bond between me and Loki got deeper.

Ah– the moon tonight is so beautiful.

The next day, I can finally greet the morning of 'Valhalla' after five day of absence. I rushed to 'Valhalla Kitchen' immediately after my daily jogging.

"Good morning!"

"Oh, you're early today, Sei-kun. What happen? Why did you come so early for work?"

The Chef Head was preparing breakfast in the backyard of the kitchen basked with the refreshing morning sun. I entered the kitchen and took a look around. Oh, it's very clean. Looks like this place isn't as disastrous as I thought during my absence. Everyone is so hardworking… when I was thinking about that,

Chef Head said this as if he could read my mind:

“Sei-kun, the days when you’re not here, this place is a disaster.”

“Eh? But the place is so clean…”

“Well, this is the food storage. No matter how busy we are, we need to clean this place properly every day. This is not what I meant by disaster.”

Chef Head stopped with the preparation and said while wiping his sweat. Well, I wonder what it meant when he said that.

“The goats that were used to substitute you….. kept refusing to become a meal. I also understand what they felt, so I didn’t force them but we didn’t have enough time for them to decide. In the end, we relied on the forceful method of Thor-sama to solve the problem.”

“Forceful method…. What did he do exactly?”

“He used the thunder from Mjölnir to shock them to death. After that, everyone removed the skin and bones. Because there will be scars if the skin or bone is

damaged, thus everyone was very careful during work. I think that Sei-kun know what happen after that right?"

"Somehow I don't want to imagine that sight."

It's a bit weird coming from me but that is quite miserable. If any livestock, other than me, was to encounter that type of situation, I really don't wish to see it honestly…. And that happened because they were used to replace me….

After seeing the depressed me, Chef Head pat my forehead softly, and use a forceful tone to say his impression toward me:

"After that, I had another thought, Sei-kun… your courage is not to be underestimated. Even though you know you can revive, but it's not easy to overcome the fear of death. I respect you on this matter from the bottom of my heart."

"There is nothing you need to respect. It's just that, I gave up easily when compare to a normal person."

"Haha, you're still so modest. But I feel that, you who

have the courage to face death give out an aura.... similar to those of Einherjars."

"I am like..... an Einherjars?"

It appears I have already become an Einherjars in the heart of the Chef Head. I still cannot find myself to be like those barbaric and rude people. But without a doubt, when they were order to die, they will not hesitate to give up their lives like those daredevils. I believe we have this one common point... right?

"So, Sei-kun, why are you coming here so early?"

Ah, right. Since I have already settled my matter, I shouldn't continue to disturb Chef Head anymore.

"I wanted to give my apology to the Chef Head as soon as possible because of the trouble caused in the five days that I was absent. Also, I want to give my thanks to Thor's goats that substituted me."

"So it likes that. Thanks a lot, I appreciate your concern Well, Thor's goat had already left yesterday night. I don't even know where they are now. It's better for you to wait for the opportunity to come and

thank them later."

"Is that so…. I understand. Then I will take my leave, please take care of me for tonight too."

After I lowered my head to show my respect toward Chef Head, he gave a small smile and sent me off. Of course, I will come back again in a while after I finished my breakfast. Then…. The problem starts now.

This is because after I was bestowed with this important task, other than the night time when I work, otherwise I am quite free. I can choose to sleep, study or play, so I can do whatever I like in the free time that I have, in fact it will make other jealous. Seriously, after I got this job, there is a lot of troublesome things that kept popping up.

"That's right! I should use this chance and go have a proper talk with Brynhildr-sama…. Well, if only Brynhildr-sama is at her room."

I better take this opportunity and go visit her. Lucky that I've already been to her room once, so I won't have to be afraid of getting lost on my own. Then, let

depart.

After an hour I finished having my breakfast and took a short break, I rushed out of the canteen toward Brynhildr-sama room. My method of going there is the same as last time, I will use the 'Rainbow Void' to reach there.

"HiiHooHiiHoo…. Eh? Why is it so noisy there?"

When I was humming while passing through the practice field, there was a quarrel coming from one of the corner. I went and took a peek out of curiosity, it seems like there's something happening between some of the Einherjars

"Kakaka, so some of the Hero-sama quite hot-headed…"

Well there is nothing unusual about this, since they always do this. It's better for me to not get involved with this situation, I better go now.

"Can't you understand what I said just now? Is your hearing worse than this old man? Well, I will say it as many time as I want, with your standard, let not said a

Jotun, I don't even think you can kill a bobcat."

There is a voice among the crowd that makes me to turn my head back. As I expected…. The cause of this quarrel is none other than Witige himself!

"You stinky old man…. Don't think that you can be so proud with your obsolete technique. The great me was called as the hundred man killer before I reincarnated, what do you mean when you said that I cannot even kill a bobcat?"

"You are still quite a fool if you use the number of people you killed to brag. If you are a knight then you should be more proud on the number of people you saved instead."

"Those type of nice words mean nothing! Do you really think that you are much stronger than the great me who is the commander of the 6th squad commanding eight hundred soldiers? Then, why don't we prove it with your extravagant sword!"

"6th squad eight hundred people….. Ha, you are just a group of kindergarten playing knight… I see that you are so proud until you cannot see the different, you

stinky fool… well then.”

Witige gave a sigh fill with sadness and waved his head. I figured out this is the most foolish mistake when I feel the moment that his thin and small body is getting smaller.

(This is! It’s quite similar during the fight with Hilde-sama…. No, the aura is stronger)

That aura which can melt the atmosphere gave a great pressure to the hero pride. So this is the sign telling that the legendary black sword saint is serious.

The sword saint Witige unsheathed a long and big sword from its black scabbard. The shiny silver sword is so sharp that a person can get cut just by looking at it.

“‘The beloved sword Mimung’ is a legendary sword which history mentions that it had defeated countless number of foes, and the one who can use it power properly as told in history is none other than me.”

Mi…Mimung! Impossible, isn’t that the beloved sword that Hilde-sama mentioned? During the Valkyries

selection, he didn't even use his beloved sword yet Witige are you going to use it here!

"HiiHooHiiHoo...."

Witige stabilizing his breath, calming down his heart and put the sword sideway. The sword held at his waist height as if he is ready to split the horizon and the aura from the sword separates the sound and the air in the world.

"Even though my body is old, I will let you have a proper experience with –— the power of the Volsunga sword technique. Hidden technique..... God Slash of the dragon slayer! Haaaaaaaaa!!"

With a big step and a fast slash. Like an illusion, Witige remained still after releasing the hidden technique. What... What a godly technique! Even though we are so close, I cannot even grasp any of his movement at all... Ah... looks like..... he did not move at all?

"Ah.... My..... waist...."

"Witige!"

Not good, seems like his hurt his waist! He shouldn't

use that much force given his age!"

"Hey…. Are you okay old man? Let put the sword down first, okay?"

The youngster who is quarrelling with him extended his hand in a hurry. After Witige heard that, he placed his sword on the ground. Right at this moment, he who cannot even stand properly collapsed beside his sword.

BANG--

"Ah! He collapsed! The old man collapsed!"

"Ah, Witige! Witige!!!!!!"

– During the dusk of the same day-—

The practice field that the commotion happened just now had become a funeral.

The strongest Einherjars, the black sword saint Witige…. The hidden technique that he use which even the eastern people are unable to imitate it, ended his second life.

"Sob sob…. Old man, please forgive me ….it's all my fault….. I actually respect you a lot old man…. But it

was because you reminded me of my father which I can never surpass, that why..... who would have thought this is the result .... Sob sob.... How can I even apologize...."

That youngster crying non-stop, and his fist, his tears and grief fallen to the ground at the same time. I also saw that there is a lot of Einherjars who is crying. In just a short while when Witige arrived in 'Valhalla', he managed to win the hearts of so many people.

"Ah..."

In a slightly distant place, I saw Hilde-sama crying. This is of course, because they are like comrade since it took quite some time for her to persuade Witige.

Freya-sama who is hugging Hilde-sama is also crying, the other sisters also.... Of course, I also cried out.

The ceremony held until sunset where Lord Odin personally used the rune of 'kenaz' to begin the cremation for the body.

"Please forgive my intrusion. May I know who pass away that required such a grand ceremony?"

A voice of an old man suddenly appeared beside me, I wipe my nose and reply:

“Sob…. Oh… he is a very talented person. Did you just come back? There is still time to offer the flower, UAaaaaaaaaaaaa! Wi….Witige!”

After hearing my crazy-like big shout, everyone in the surrounding look toward me. In front of me where everyone is looking at, should be the person who have turn to ash but still energetic, Witige.

“What happen? Didn’t you just pass away, since your hit your head?”

“Ah….? I still remember about my waist problem, but is there anything wrong with my head….. Ah, my waist is fine now.”

Witige thought for a while and touch his waist. So it’s like that, don’t tell me he is immortal? Wait, there’s no doubt that he died. Don’t tell me……

While I was stuck in my confusion, Lord Odin put out the fire immediately to confirm the situation. There is a corpse there and it’s still burning. In other words….

Revive. A new body..... during sunset..... just like me.

Chapter 6 - Color of The Heroic Side-kick

“Ha… That frightened me a bit. Hey, are you there Sei?”

On the second day since Witige had been revived like a miracle. Everything is as usual during the day time but when the sun set and the golden moon rise –– there is a rare guest that came to ‘Valhalla Kitchen’.

“Loki? I’m here!”

I slowly crawled out from the kitchen to the canteen with a fatigued body since I just revived. After Loki looked at me in this appearance, he told me to stop and quickly came toward me. He lifted me up and put me on top of the table.

“Sei, listen to me. I just heard about an amazing news.”

“I know, is it about the matter on the Einherjars?”

I sort of guessed what Loki tried to said, so I answered him immediately. Loki nodded as a response, it seem

my guess is correct. The reason why I can predict it correctly is because…

Yesterday….. After Witige was revive, Lord Odin, who was there the whole time, gather all the present Einherjars and gave an order:

“For those who want honors, use your own death to proof that you are immortal on the sunset tomorrow.”

Is Witige reviving a coincidence or something inevitable? Is there any Einherjars present dare to try it? Not only Lord Odin, I believe that anyone also wants to know about it.

There was a brave guy who volunteered to do it while everyone was uproar. That’s the same guy who started the fight with Witige. Argh……. I think his name is ‘Beerse’. Anyway, it seem like he is selected as the guinea pig for the experiment.

If everything went according to plan, he should had already die before the sunset today. Since I have the task which I needed to jump in Eldhrimnir, I didn’t have the opportunity to witness his death…..

“I have helped witness it for you. As plan he died, but I didn’t expect him to commit seppuku. After that, as expect, he was revive similar to Witige yesterday like nothing had happen. During the moment when the sun set, his new body appeared near the corpse.

After Witige, Beerse is also can revive. The one common point that this two revived person have is ---they were both selected by the beautiful Valkyrie as pawn for the Gods, the member of Einherjars.

After this, Beerse who sacrificed himself in a meaningful way had proven that Einherjars had the same revival ability as me. In another word, they had gained immortality.

“Looks like my big brother was so happy he going to dance there. I think the Jotun won’t be such a difficult enemy since we have unexpectedly obtained a large army of immortals.”

“Unexpectedly….. Didn’t Lord Odin know that those Einherjars have this type of ability?”

“Of course, he doesn’t. It’s another story if they come with a manual….. Although the Einherjars train

themselves every day, but the judgment day is still quite far so they don't have much combat experience. Moreover, there isn't any unfortunate case happened before, thus it's the first time when someone died yesterday."

As Loki said this, Chef Head handed us some drinks. Loki thanked him and took a glass, he continued to ask me while holding it:

"Sei, about their ability..... What do you think about it?"

"What do I think..... That's right, did you inspect the activated rune?"

"Of course, Siegrune say: it the same as your rune."

"So is the rune of 'feoh' and 'dakaz' then. It is more understandable if it used on a boar like me but doesn't it seem a bit weird that the rune of livestock work against those Einherjars?"

"There is nothing weird about that. It's a bit cruel but, those fellows are pawns used to defeat the Jotun. You do know that the Jotun are quite strong right? Actually

the existence between the Gods and the Jotun are quite close to each other as both of them supposed to be non-existent beings. Then let me ask you this, if we plan to kill Thor, how many Einherjars is needed?"

I thought for a while before answering the sudden question:

"If it is Thor-sama… I'm afraid that even if all the Einherjars attack him at once, they won't be able to do it?"

"That's right. Well, there isn't much Jotun that's as powerful as Thor but it's something like that. According to my calculation, it will need around a blood bath of around a thousand Einherjars to kill one Jotun. Don't you think they are livestock in this way? Ah, the order given to them is quite similar to the order for a livestock. From tomorrow onward, they will start with real combat training, in other words, they're going to train themselves by fighting each other to death to prove their ability. Isn't it funny?"

The way he talked is as if he wanted to spit something out, then he finished the glass of drink in one go. I

wonder what Loki angry is about? I don't understand but .....

(Is life.... Something to look down on.....)

For some reason I'm also a bit furious. Ah, I understand it now, Loki feel the same way as I am now.

"Oh, looks like the Einherjars will come over soon. I will need to take this opportunity to slip away..... Oh yeah, Sei, after you finish your work tomorrow, can you go and have a look at the practice field. There is something amazing there."

Loki left the place by leaving a meaningful smile and that speech. What does it mean? Even if I go to the practice field, it will mostly be filled with the Einherjars corpses right.

"Chef Head, do you know about this? The amazing thing that Loki mentioned just now."

"Ya.... I think he's talking about 'That' which hasn't been used for sometimes. Alright, I'll go and have a look at it tomorrow. If you want to know.... No, forget

about it. It's more interesting if you see it yourself."

The Chef Head is showing the same smile as Loki as he decided to hide 'That'. Seriously, what is that? Oh, the desire to know and not to know……

Anyway I only know that it'll be something surprising, but that's still a mystery to me.

"Well, I don't think it'll be something major. Since I had already gained some resistance toward mysterious things in the God community, so I won't be surprised by it so easily."

What the… I can't believe that I am so naïve right now.

"This….. This…. This…. What is this?"

I welcome another night with some expectation and a little bit of uneasiness. Once I had known the true meaning behind the malicious smiles of the Chef Head and Loki yesterday, I collapsed on the ground as if receiving a huge impact that scared my soul away.

"Um… that….I'm sorry, this is something too surprising, or should I say the thing in front of me is too big. I still cannot understand what I am facing

now."

I asked the Chef Head who was staring at me with amusement. He used a very calm voice, which was the opposite of me, to answer:

"Hahaha, as expected that you were surprise. He is Hresvelgr, like what you seen..... no, without guessing, he is a very big eagle."

"Eagle... how big is he?"

I asked, because I could only see a portion of the eagle in my perception zone.

"According to what I heard, he can cover the whole sky just by spreading his wing. Well, would you accept the fact that he could generate all the wind in the whole world just by flapping his wings?"

"Exactly.....Exactly what did he eat to become like this?"

"Oh..... Corpse.... From living being."

The moment I heard his response, I hold my breath so that I can look at Hresvelgr in a more detailed way.

Just now, he keeps concentrating on pecking on something…. I guess that are the Einherjars corpses which spread all over the practice field.

“Aiya, I thought it’ll make you feel gross out. But his existence and task are quite important.”

“By eating corpse?”

“That’s right, if we leave the corpse of a living being for a long time, it will rot right? Not only will the corpse will release a bad stench, it might possible that it will spread some dangerous germs. Sei-kun, before you come, this place used to have a lot of livestock, but there’s some that died before we had the opportunity to eat them due to several reasons. The one responsible for managing those corpses is him.”

I see….. No wonder Chef Head didn’t get surprised by him when we met, this is because his existence is important in the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’, which means they already knew each other from a long time.

Even though I’m just a trainee chef, but I’m still a worker in the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’. Although our working place is one at the kitchen and the other at the

practice field, we are still colleague in the 'Valhalla'. I should make a proper introduction with him.

"Hey, Hresvelgr! I am Sæhrímnir the boar! I am still a greenhorn but please take care of me!"

I try my best to shout as loud as possible so it can be heard because I don't know where his ears are.

Seems that I managed to reach him, his huge body slowly turned toward me:

".....Please.....take.....care.....of.....me.....too."

I didn't understand what he was saying since he said slower than his turning.

"That.... Did you understand what he said?"

"No, I just remember that the last word is too."

Is that correct?

"Then.... Ah, we should leave now! Goodbye!"

After we excused ourselves, he didn't give any response. We waited for a while but there was still no response, so I waved my hand to Chef Head and left the place.

“Good……bye……..”

Ah, it seems he said something just now, but it’s too late, well, never mind……

After that, the Einherjars obediently committed to the new order by Lord Odin…… how do I say this, anyway every day is just a killing feast for them.

To be honest that is a very tragic thing, if it’s me, I’d quit. But in the practice field that is close to death, the Einherjars managed to increase their concentration to the limit which is the result they achieved from this cruelty. If this goes on, their battle with the Jotun might be a battle worth waiting. This is only my thought, since it’s not easy to predict what Lord Odin is planning…

When the others, except me, are getting used to their weird lifestyle as if being revival is like a meal to them––in other words, it’s already a common thing, ‘some phenomenons’ happened which start to scare people.

“Woah! Another earthquake! …. It ended.”

I slowly crawled out from the table which I'd hurriedly hidden under. When it first started, my whole body was covered by dust. Now, there isn't a speck of dust that can be found on my body. This shows that the earthquake happened too frequently.

"I wonder what happened? There's too much earthquake recently."

Just recently around this hour every day, there would be two or three strong yet short earthquake. Normally, earthquake doesn't happen in this world. I wonder if the frequent earthquake is a premonition for something……At the same time, Lord Odin and the others had treated it as an omen and had begun their investigation on this matter.

Once the Aesir Gods become serious, then this matter will be solved easily. Just when I come out with that conclusion–— Someone knocked on my door softly while calling out to me with a beautiful voice.

"Good morning, Sei-kun. Um… that, are you awake already?"

"I already woke up! Please wait for a minute!"

I quickly unfasten the rope for the door lock and open the door. Brynhildr-sama who is breathing heavily and a bit reddish faced appear in front of me. Oh, what an affectionate look!

“Good morning Brynhildr-sama! Um… about the matter with Hilde-sama.”

“Ah, I would also like to have a proper talk with Sei-kun about that matter….. But forgive me, even though there is a lot of thing I want to talk with you, but the reason I come here is because there’s an order for an emergency meeting which required your presence. Could we put the matter aside first and follow me?”

“Eh? Emergency……. Where do we need to go?”

I asked it in this way. Since I sort of guess the person who wanted me to attend-- I knew about it when I think back the first time Brynhildr-sama came to Idavoll forest.

She nodded her head and replied dignifiedly:

“The third hall of ’Gladsheim’, ‘Valaskjálf’,”

The pure silver palace ‘Valaskjálf’, as its name implies,

the whole building is made up of pure silver and it's the third hall of 'Gladsheim'. Furthermore, that's the place where Lord Odin lived.

"Oh! It seems you had finally arrived, Sei. Thanks for the hard work, Brynhildr."

At the place which Lord Odin specific, in the room of the high seat, other than Lord Odin, there were Loki, Thor-sama, Frey-sama, Baldr-sama and other gods also showed up. Freya-sama and the nine Valkyries sister were also present. Normally, this isn't a place where a small fry like me would be attending.... Without a doubt, this is the doing of Loki.

"Um.... That.... Ahem, Pardon me but I'm not sure about the current situation. May I ask why a boar like me was requested to attend such an important meeting of 'Asgard'?"

I used a polite and respectful way to say that and also lifted my head to look at my surrounding. Out of my expectation, the one who answered was seating on the high seat, Lord Odin.

"Upon Loki's recommendation, I hope that you could

provide us with your wisdom. This is because, Loki, Mimir and I were unsure of the cause of the earthquake… maybe you are the only one who can help us to identify the cause."

"This, this is impossible! Loki, I'm not that powerful!"

"Well, I'm actually quite impressed with your cleverness and the power of imagination for a while. Even though you were born in the countryside but you might have a different perspective from us right?"

"Don't treat me like a fool…."

I quickly closed my eyes after saying something disrespect unintentionally while awaiting the punishment that will be given. Don't tell me that I would be fired….. That won't happen right?

"Haiz…. Guess we have to figure it out ourselves…..So, did anyone present here have conducted any investigation?"

"I had used the High Seat, Hlidskjalf to look at the whole realm. The result is that there is no abnormalities in any of the nine realms."

This is impossible…. Doesn't that mean it's pointless to pursue this matter further?

"Doesn't that mean that the earthquakes only happen in 'Asgard'?"

"No, that is not the case. All the realms also experience it."

"All the realm….?"

That means there's abnormities in some common part of the nine realms? Is it water, how about the air….. Argh, no, there is no way that these thing is the cause of the world-scale earthquake. It should be something bigger…. That is overlooking the nine realms or it can be seen…..

That's it! Isn't there that thing. The thing that connect all the realms!

"It's the world tree! There might be something happen in the world tree!"

"Ho…. I see, we have discussed about that before but it's impossible."

“Why?”

“Why? Haha, I didn’t thought you would ask this. Didn’t you know about that tree, little boar. That is a mighty tree that existed before the birth of the realm. It’s a sturdy tree that can maintain the whole nine realms forever. Furthermore, there is also the ‘Well of Urðr’ which the three goddess always sprinkle cleansing water to the root. As cautious, I also used Hlidskjalf to observe it, other than some fallen leaves, there’s no problem. Do you understand it now, boar? The tree isn’t the root of the problem, it the same for ‘Ragnarok’.”

My opinion was being laugh by Lord Odin. To be frank, I was quite disappointed, even though they were anticipating on the perspective of a boar, but I did not managed to provide any help. Well…. Since my standard is at that low level after all.

“No, wait… there is a blind spot. That’s right! What a good perspective, Sei! Big brother, there is something I like you to see, can you lend me Hlidskjalf for a while.”

Loki, who was in high spirit, held me and sit on Lord

Odin high seat. Then, what appeared in front of us suddenly was the sight that I had seen before.

“This is…. Isn’t this Witige workshop? Seriously Loki, do you still plan to find those nude paintings at this moment?”

“Fool, that’s not the case! Did you forget what I said just now? That…. Ah, got it.”

Well due to the small earthquake that day, we quick rush out of Witige house to find shelter.

Before that, Loki arranged two painting next to each other on top of the table. The painting was a very detail scenery of the world tree, Læraðr.

“As expected…. Now I finally know the reason why I felt so restless that time when I saw them.”

“What happened, Loki? Is there anything weird in the painting?”

Lord Odin inquired more about the situation with an anxiety look. The anxiety started to spread and everyone focused on Loki. He gave a full explanation on the restless part that he felt:

“It’s the angle, this can only be seen due to the detail drawing. If you take a closer look, the right is an old painting while the left is a newer painting. Both of them are the same tree but the left one is a slightly tilted when compare to the right. In other words--”

– The world tree is slowly collapsing—

At this moment, everyone presented have the same thought in their brain—An abnormally strong quake happen again.

“Not good!! This quake, don’t tell me Læraðr is ……!”

A roar could be heard together the continuous quake. After the magnitude of the quake is a bit stronger, the building is starting to tilt. No, it not the building that is tilting, it’s the world itself!

“This is bad! If Læraðr, the pillar supporting the realms, were to collapse, all of the realm will be destroyed. Argh…. Don’t tell me that this….. This is ‘Ragnarok”! Oi, Thor! I want you to take command of all the male God present to support the branch of Læraðr! Hurry up!”

“Damn, what a ridiculous thing…! I understand, but I don’t know how long can we hold it, I hope that you can think of something as soon as possible.”

Thor-sama who is taking the lead, bring all the male gods present and rushed out. At the same moment when we were sending them off, Lord Odin quickly gave an order to Hilde-sama:

“Gerhilde, since speed is your specialty, I want you to inform and gather all the male gods that was absent to support the Læraðr!”

“I will see it be done!”

After she said that, she immediately activated her Rustang Wind and flew out of the room. Under the pure white feather snow-like situation, Lord Odin who was seating on his high seat gave a big sigh.

“……Well. It’s better now, the quake and the tilting has stop. Looks like Thor and the others did a good job. Furthermore, the whole Aesir tribe is in a mess. Haha, even the Jotun is lending their help, they are desperately holding the root that leads to the ‘Well of Mimir’ which is going to fall down.”

Lord Odin is using Hlidskjalf to peep at the conditions of all the realms. In 'Vanaheim' which is on top of 'Asgard', all of the member is having a tug of war with the tree branch of Læraðr. But in the 'well of Mimir' which is situated inside 'Jötunheimr', the giants are beginning to support the last root.

"....What an irony, the enemies from the past which is still the current enemies is helping to save this realm with all they got. Only under this type of situation, do all the whole realms work together as one."

It doesn't matter even if it's temporary. Lord Odin whispered this while staring at a far far place.

"But, this can't continue forever. If the cause of the earthquake is due to the tilting of Læraðr, then we must found out the reason why Læraðr is tilting. For those who have any suggestion, you may speak it out."

Seems the gaze of Lord Odin is back and he looks at his surrounding for suggestion. The one who lift his hand first is the Trickster Loki.

"There is one person who is able to help us here. Hey, little one, are you here?"

“Yes! I am right here!”

A mysterious voice suddenly responded to Loki summon. The voice is like that of a kid before hitting puberty, which gave an impression that it was being laugh at by other. But there is no doubt that the speedy response is similar to a professional. I looked up at the ceiling where the voice came from, from there a furry thing which is as big as my palm fell down. This brown colour object…… it is a squirrel!

“You little boar, don’t keep staring at me. It makes me feel shy.”

“I’m not little anymore…… you are more little than me!”

“Don’t judge a book by its cover, I’m actually an adult, you know? Everyone always said that I’m cute.”

This squirrel who said it is an adult keep blinking its big round eyes. Damn it, I can’t accept this, but it’s so cute.

So the mascot for ‘Valhalla’ is not just me and Hayes. No, how can a boar and a goat win against a squirrel….

It is our total defeat.

“Sei, I guess this is the first time you see him. This is Ratatoskr. He also has a special ability like you, he mainly engages in spying. Isn’t that correct?”

“Oh, it’s like you said. I’m a squirrel that can only live in Læraðr, to make matter worse, both my parent went missing in the tree leaves when I was a kid. I who was in search of warmness, keep travelling and …. Finally came to the rainbow void and obtain my peace.”

“Oh…. Thanks for your hard work.”

“It was really difficult that time. But I don’t know when, me who was living there suddenly have a change in my body. Then, my body had become a rainbow void. Do you understand what it means? Never mind! Let me explain about it. In other word, I can teleport myself to any part of ‘Asgard’. Not only that, I can also teleport to the area full of the pulse of the rainbow in the branches of Læraðr. Because of this, all the whole nine realms is like my backyard, so there is no one who understands the matter regarding Læraðr better than me.

He said that proudly when standing with his two feet. Now that I think of it, I remember that Loki and Hilde-sama mentioned that a squirrel had infiltrate 'Vingólf'. I guess that squirrel was him.

"Yo, Ratatoskr, there's something I want ask of professor of Læraðr which is you. Do you know the reason why Læraðr is falling down?"

"Of course!"

"As expected, then what is the reason?"

"That's because of Nidhogg biting, well the root of Læraðr at 'the spring of Hvergelmir' is completely gone!"

Root, the root is gone! He even dares show a happy face while saying that!

"Why didn't you say so earlier!"

"It's better if I informed you sooner?"

Ratatoskr was surprised at this, I guess that he had no evil intention at all. Like this Loki couldn't refrain himself by staying silent, seems like he doesn't have

the mood to blame him anymore.

“But…… Nidhogg. I didn’t expect that I will hear his name at this time.”

Lord Odin said this while frowning after he heard Ratatoskr’s report.

“Who is Nidhogg?”

I asked my surrounding about this. What made me happy was that Brynhildr-sama walked toward me, bent down and explained to me softly:

“Nidhogg is a black snake that had lived in ‘Asgard’ in the past. But because of his relationship with Hresvelgr, which is a big eagle who is clearing up the Einherjars corpse, is quite bad, they always fought with each other. After Lord Odin stayed in charge of the land, he left the heaven realm, ‘Asgard’, angrily and head to the underworld, ‘Helheim’.”

“Whoa, such an extreme snake.”

“He is like that. But, I’m afraid he has some plans of his own. Both Nidhogg and Hresvelgr like to eat corpse, he went to ‘Helheim’ with the thought the he can simply

eat the corpse there…. But in fact that isn't easy. It seems that Nidhogg who was helpless because after moving to 'Helheim' and failed to eat the corpse as plan, he went and feast on the root of Læraðr instead. But there is a miscalculation here, when he keeps eating the root of Læraðr, he is absorbing the rich life energy of it and it changed his appearance instead. Now he have transform into an unexpected creature which is the highest rank of a Mythical Type -— a dragon."

Dra…Dragon! That fellow keeps feasting on the roof of Læraðr until now!

"Why did the Gods ignore him?"

"So..Sorry. There are two reasons why we ignore it. The first is that we don't want to waste our fighting force before 'Ragnarok'. Moreover, a dragon is a powerful creature that is the same as a God, we cannot guarantee that we won't suffer any loss if we have a battle him."

"But…"

I didn't know about that….. a dragon is a dangerous

creature.

I don't think it's possible for the Einherjars to win against it when even the Aesir Gods will have trouble fighting it.

"Then, for the second reason, it's about the cleansing water that Lord Odin mentioned. We have conducted a test, as long as the world tree can absorb the cleansing water, it should not fall down, and so we can ignore Nidhogg. But, looks like….. It was proven that the test result is inaccurate based on the current situation. This is our fault due to miscalculation."

Brynhildr-sama gently stroked my back like she was trying to calm me the angry me down. Could you please stroke the spot below… Wait! This is not the time, actually I'm not angry at Brynhildr-sama. In fact, I'm not angry at all, basically I am just depress. I can't believe we didn't notice during our time at 'Midgard' that the lush greenery world tree we saw is actually crying for help in our blind spot.

"Argh……The quake is happening again!"

Once again, the whole realm is shaking, it seems like

the world tree is tilting sometimes and some other time it stagnates. Looks like the Thor-sama and his team, which is supporting Læraðr, are at their limit already.

Lord Odin stood up from his high seat quietly, took off his black robe with a golden embroidery. Even though he's already at an old age, his muscular body still giving off a declaration that it would support the realm.

"..... So we cannot hold back anymore. Loki, I want you to go to 'Helheim' and repair the roots."

"Do you really want me to go?"

"Other than you, there is no one else can do it. This is because I'm quite impress of you and other than the rune magic that was formed when we become sworn brother– there is no other ways to save Læraðr anymore. Loki..... I will leave the rest to you."

This isn't an order by the High God, but a request by an older brother. Loki is not the person who would rush into a troublesome situation that easily..... but he is also not the type of person who would reject it. Isn't

that right, Loki?

"…. Damn, guess I have no choice. Then I will go, even though it's quite troublesome and there's no other ways. But I also want to make a request, I want to bring two bodyguards with me. I believe that there will be a fight with Nidhogg if the negotiation went bad and even if he is willing to listen to me, he might change his mind and attack the defenseless me when I'm doing the repairing."

"Seem I have no other choice already, there won't be any problem except male Gods."

"I appreciate that. Then the first one is …… Brynhildr, I will depend on you."

"Yes!"

"Wait for a moment, Loki! Why must you choose Brynhildr-sama?"

After I heard Loki selection, I protested against him. You do know the opponent is a dragon right? From what I heard, it's a strong foe that will give trouble to the Gods, I don't want to let my Brynhildr-sama to face

such a strong opponent!

“Didn’t you hear what I said just now? I’m not asking Brynhildr-sama to kill Nidhogg. That fellow is known as the king of the thousand snakes, and he’s always surrounded by a thousand snakes. Isn’t that right, Ratatoskr?”

“Ah, Master Loki, about that matter! The number actually increased again in this short duration! There is no limit for that fellow.”

“What? Damn it, how could this happen……. then, how many is it now?”

“One thousand and ten. This is out of my expectation.”

“…Ha? Do you mean…..one thousand become one thousand and ten?”

“That right! I am very confident on it since I counted it thrice.”

“…. You counted it thrice?”

“It’s very hard, you know?”

“Ah…. That, Ratatoskr, I don’t know what should I say

about that….."

"I hope you can praise me!"

"…. After this, can someone praise him?"

Loki gave out weak sigh. Well, is this the secret to Ratatoskr's popularity? I better remember this technique properly as it can make a person change their minds.

"Ah, that means, if we were to fight with that fellow, we need to get rid of the one thousand and ten snakes first. That's why we need the only Valkyrie that has the 'Area Annihilation type' God technique which is Brynhildr. Can you accept this, Sei?"

Well, so she only needs to kill all the snakes surrounding him….. Right?

"Oh, I understand now, if that's the case then I have no objection. Then, who is the second bodyguard?"

"Ah, that is you. You will be the one who's in charge of dealing with Nidhogg. I will depend on you, partner."

"Ok, leave it to me! Eh? EEEEEE!"

When I was giving my salutation unconsciously, I suspected whether my ears had problems after hearing what Loki said. I didn't mishear it right? … Right? Liar, everyone is trying to lie to me. Eh, is this for real……

"Wait for a moment, Loki, isn't that a bit odd? Nidhogg is a dragon you know?"

"That's the reason why I choose you. It's not convenient to say it here but didn't you have that killing technique? That's why you are the most suitable for this task."

"That is correct…. But I'm just a boar that has not combat experience? If you want a combat expert….. That's right I know someone who's on par with the dragon killer! He is known as Witige."

"Do you think it's possible for an old man who twisted his back just a short while ago?"

Sob…. I have no way to reject that statement which was shot back at me…..

"….Then, how about using a weapon! Why don't you

ask Frey-sama to lend you a sword! That's the sword which can overcome 'Ragnarok' right? I think if Loki asks....."

"What a coincidence, that thing has a will of its own so it chooses the owner itself. It's the same case for Big Brother's Gungnir and the old man's Mimung."

"Then why don't you just ask Frey-sama to accompany you, I believe it'll be an easy victory in that case."

"Hey, Sei. Did you forget the condition that my Big Brother said just now? Did you hear the loud sound coming from the ground? The group that is supporting the branch is already at its limit, Læraðr will fall down the moment a person is lacking. Moreover, you do know that I cannot swap with Frey right? The only one who can repair the root is only me."

"How about..... Loki defeat Nidhogg by himself first, then only repair the root?"

"That would be nice if I can. But I'm only skillful at deceiving, I'm not good at being in the front line, I'm also no good at using the destructive magic from the rune of 'hagalaz' or a large scale magic from the rune

of ‘ansuz’. That’s why unfortunately, it’s impossible for me to defeat a dragon.”

How is this possible….. If it’s impossible for Loki, why don’t they just rely on someone else….. For example the Valkyrie but it’ll be hard for them too….

“Then… How….. About….”

“…Oh, Sei, are you scared of Nidhogg? Are you scared to battle?”

Depression and some…. disappointments. This is the feeling that Loki felt he when looked at my eyes. Did he felt sad for the person he regarded as a …… friend. If that the case, I too--

“I’m sorry, Loki. But I am just a boar. I am just a boar, a brown boar called Sæhrímnir. To me, I am not suitable for this situation…. that’s similar to Armageddon. This situation… is more suitable for the hero who can save it.”

This is my answer. It’s not because I’m afraid of battle, and it’s also not because I’m afraid I will fail. Of course I’m very scared but that’s not the case…… I still have

my own major task.

The major task of being dinner for 'Valhalla'.

Loki closed his eye as if the accepted my answer. But the moment he opened it, he look direct at my eye filled with expectation and hope.

"I'm glad to heard this response. Sei, it seems you had a misunderstanding about this. Do listen properly? There's no hero who is suitable to save the world but the one who save the world deserved to known as a hero. Sei, go be a hero. I can guarantee that if it's you, there'll be no problem. I can also guarantee that, this is something that only you can do. Furthermore…. Look at this."

Loki shifted his sight, currently the one he is look at is -— the blue Valkyrie who's majestically standing there with a resolved determination. In fact, it's obvious to me that -- in order to not let loose to the tense and insecure feeling, Brynhildr-sama is biting her lip tightly.

"Brynhildr-sama….."

My most important person who is more important than anything..... more important than my own live is going to gamble her life in the battle that will determine the fate of the worlds. Furthermore, the bastard known as Sei is just going to stay in this safety zone. Now that I think of it, what am I really worried about.

Other than me, who can protect Brynhildr-sama? If I'm not doing it to protect the world but instead I'm doing it so that I can protect my loved one..... With this I believe I can create one or two miracle out of this!

"Loki.... I will go! Not because Loki managed to convince me, but it's something that I had decided on my own! My decision is much more reliable than Loki's guarantee!"

"Ho, this is the determination I was looking for! Then it is decided! Odin, can you lend me your Sleipnir! Just wait for a while, I will make sure the world is saved!"

"Oh, then I'll leave it to you, Loki! Okay, let's do what we can now. I want the other Valkyrie to provide assistance to the team supporting Læraðr! I want you

to prepare water and food for a long term battle, I will allow those who want to help wipe their sweat and also those want to cheer for them! Freya-chan, can you help out?"

"Of course, uncle. Team Valkyrie, I want you to stay focus and move out!"

"Yes!" All the Valkyries said at the same time.

Everyone start to move on their own in order to fulfill their own tasks. The moment when everyone dispersed to their respective destinations, Loki call upon the world fastest horse, Sleipnir, and took both Brynhildr-sama and me and headed toward 'Helheim'! ..... Which is what I thought.....

"I'm sorry, you two. But I need to take a detour before we head to 'Helheim'."

"We don't have that kind of leisure time, shouldn't we hurry up since they are at their limit?"

"That right, but the mission will fail if we rush in without any preparation. I just thought of a nice plan so I need to make the preparation for it first."

“Loki-sama, don’t tell me that you have some kind of secret plan?”

“Something like that, first we need to visit the Sun Goddess, Sola. After that, we need to go find the watchman of Bifröst, Heimdall. This thing is….. the most important part of this secret plan is, Sei, your determination. You’d better prepare it now.”

“Sola-sama, Heimdall-sama and my determination? What kind of strategy is this?”

“All I can say is that it’s a strategy in my own way. Well, if I had to say it, I will show a miracle as the greatest trickster in the God community, so there will be some hidden tricks. Kekeke!”

Loki is showing off a sinister smile while controlling Sleipnir. Actually I’m more concern on what he mean by ‘prepare it now’……Sob, I really cannot understand what this person is thinking.

After we had done with our preparation for the plan, we arrived at ‘Helheim’ during dusk. Right now, we are directly standing in front of the entrance, in the doorstep of ‘Gnipahellir’.

According to what Brynhildr-sama heard from the pass-byer, the 'Helheim' which is an Artic land that is situated underground in the northern part of 'Midgard' once known as 'Niflheim'. The realm of the death which is always covered by a blue and white tundra is being managed alone by Queen 'Hel'. Even though, the environment is very harsh but its function in the country is still retained.

"Both of you listen carefully, after we enter 'Gnipahellir', there is two things that you need to be wary of. The first one is 'Time limited'. Now I will use the rune of 'sowulo' to help maintain your body temperature."

"Maintain the body temperature? Ah, once we enter, we will be in an Artic land, since we don't have any cold resistant clothings, we need to rely on the rune to protect us."

Well, I still have my own mane I can be proud of. Both of them can also hug me to obtain warmth. In the case of which Brynhildr-sama hugs me, my body temperature will rise rapid and it will be much

warmer!

“Yo, Sei, you just thought that ‘Helheim’ is just a slightly cold place right? ‘Helheim’ is the realm of the death, normally the living are not allow to enter. The reason why ‘Helheim’ become an Artic land is not because of the frozen atmosphere, but it’s because the land will absorb heat from the surrounding.”

“Absorb heat…. That means it’s pointless no matter how many clothes we wear?”

“Yup, that is the case. It won’t be a problem from those who have already died but once the heat from a living is completely gone, they will become a god. There is an exception like Sleipnir and Ratatoskr who don’t have body warmth to begin with, but once the effect of the rune of ‘sowulo’ wear off, we won’t be much difference from the dead. The effect only last for a total of three hour-— better remember this properly.”

I’m not sure whether the time limit of three hour is short or long. But I will keep Loki’s kind advice deep in my heart, I answered Loki after swallowing my saliva.

“The second thing is quite simple, once I open this

door, never walk in front of me before I give my consent especially Brynhildr. Do you understand?"

"What..... What do you mean by that....."

"You will understand immediately, then I will open it now."

Loki softly climbed down from Sleipnir, and immediately cast the rune of 'sowulo'. After that he walked toward 'Gnipahellir' normally, and took a deep breath. Then... he slowly opened the door.

The two dark Iron Gates slowly opened while giving off an ominous sound like it was from the dead itself. The chilly wind blew out from the gap of the door sent a chill to my body, at the same time, there was one doubt that I couldn't stop thinking about it:

Why isn't there any lock for the front door of a country?

My question was explained immediately. At the same time the door opened, a huge black shadow rushed out from the inside. Once I identified that the huge shadow was a huge dog monster, fresh blood was

flowing out from Loki's shoulder.

"Loki!!"

"Loki-sama! I'll help you now!"

"Stand down! I'm okay!"

The fang of the huge black dog sank deeply into Loki left shoulder, the blood that flowed out was instantly frozen. But surprisingly Loki still remained very calm.

"It's okay…. Good boy, do you recognize who am I?"

The dog monster gave off a humiliating barking sound as if it reacted to the smell and taste of Loki's blood and slowly moved backward while wagging it tail. After that, he stood in a posture as if obeying Loki…..What the heck happen?

"This guy is called Gamr, as you see just now, he is a very talented hell watchdog, the downside is that he is too serious in his job. Since he didn't recognize me at sight, so I allow him to bite me once to get it."

"But that one bite….. It seems that he had deal a life threatening wound….."

“What you said is correct but I am not going to die from something like this. Well, I will leave it to you guys to protect me now.”

Even though his wound had stopped bleeding since it was frozen, but it seem that Loki’s face show that he is in pain.

(Looks like……. I’m still too naive)

Although we are in a really desperate life-threatening situation where everyone is running out of options already…… I thought that if we have Loki, we can overcome any obstacle. But…..

“Sei, there is no need to show such a worry face.”

After Loki saw through my thoughts, he patted my head and said,

“Although I receive a wound that was out of my expectation, but it’s not like I can’t do anything. If we really end up needing to fight with that fellow, then I can at least use some runic magic to provide support. Since I need to preserve my magic to repair Læraðr, I can only activate a large scale magic once. I will only

use it once I think the situation is suitable."

Is that so….. I'm not going to fight alone. It's not like a battle will occur. As long as there is no situation that will lead to a battle then there is nothing to worry about.

But… is it really possible to avoid it?

"It'll be fine, Sei-kun."

This time, it Brynhildr-sama turn to pat me on my head as if she is trying to help get rid of my doubt.

"Brynhildr-sama…."

"Ah? Don't tell me that Sei-kun does not trust me? Please don't simply judge me, since I'm still the eldest of the Valkyrie, I'm trying my best to achieve everyone expectation. My ranking among the Gods is quite high, and I don't think I will lose to Loki-sama in term of martial art."

"Kukuku! Maybe that is true, what a shocking fact."

"That's why there is nothing for you to worry about. Loki-sama please be at ease too. Please leave the rest

to me! The location of Nidhogg is located at the deepest part of 'Helheim' which is 'the spring of Helheim'.... There is not much time already, let's hurry up!"

Brynhildr-sama is now taking the lead instead of the wounded Loki who is riding on Sleipnir. What a brave person! At the same time I felt that she is quite magnificent, it makes me feel once again that I am useless.

Where have my decision that I want to protect Brynhildr-sama gone to? Don't tell me that it was frozen by the chilly wind of 'Helheim'.....

We faced not much problem after passing through the strongest security on the door that doesn't need any lock. Of course, there are mountains and valleys, but other than that there aren't many obstacles.

In the misty condition where the only light source is from a distance mansion, we have reached the foothill of a steep rocky hill. After walking inside the tunnel from the big cave, we reached a place that was unimaginable bright in the cave.

This place is a dreamlike big ice cave which was form

from the continuously refraction of the light – 'the spring of Helheim'.

"What are you doing here…. Small one."

During the time when I was too absorbed by the beautiful scenery, a whisper as if it came from the hill appeared. I couldn't pinpoint the location of voice due to the echoes.

When I started to be on alert of my surroundings, a huge monster came from the dark spot in front of me.

"This…. The growth is really out of my expectation, Nidhogg."

"Huh? Who are you?"

The dark dragon whispered while giving a troubled look, lower his head and stare at us as if he wanted to crush us.

This four leg appearance is a bit difference from my dragon transformation. But his height is similar to my dragon form. If I were to use my killer technique…. Can I really win against him?

“Eh? Hoho….. and I thought who came, aren’t you the trickster Loki! That woman beside you…. I see, you are the elder sister of the Valkyrie. I’m sorry for my manner just now, so are you looking for this awesome me?”

“We are going to help you go on a diet. Even though, it is almost zero, but there is still some of the roots left right? Can you not use the leftover for your tea time?”

“Ho, so that is the reason why you came. Hm…. Then, what do I get in return if I listen to you?”

“In return….?”

After we heard Nidhogg said that, Loki frowned immediately. It’s normal even if Loki were to get angry, this is because the world tree doesn’t belong to Nidhogg. Furthermore, he even dares to demand benefit from us.

“Sorry but I cannot decide this alone, that’s right…. How about human corpse, you do like them right? At the moment there is a lot of the corpse in the god community, the number is around twenty thousand —– so, is this a deal?”

“Hm… seem like a good deal. Okay, I will accept that.”

After accepting Loki deal, Nidhogg gave off a satisfying breath. Eh. Is the deal a success? That’s great! It seem like a battle is not necessary to settle this matter, hip hip hooray!

“Ah….. Hold on, something doesn’t seem right.”

The moment I try to relax my tense body, he suddenly open his mouth. This type of vague attitude gave us an ominous premonition.

“About the twenty thousand corpses…. Of course, you will deliver it to me every day right? Is that correct, Loki-sama?”

“Ah? Everyday….. Hey, don’t joke around with me, you bastard, do you know how much magic power is need to use the rune of ‘transfer’ to transfer that much of corpses to you! I will only deliver it to you for only one time, if you don’t want to accept this, then come and get it yourself!”

“Huh? Hey… hey! Is this really the tone of a mighty Aesir god when they’re requesting! It seem like your

arrogant attitude didn't change at all after the awesome me left the God community!"

"Huh...Seriously, you're right, it's like that."

Loki shrugged his shoulder to Nidhogg and walked toward the root of Læraðr. There is a fade green glow from both of his hand which makes the withered part of the root grow back.

"Hey, what the heck are you doing? Isn't it obvious that those tribute is necessary if you want to satisfy this awesome me! If it couldn't be done, then go and ask Hel to deliver me all the deceased here to me!"

"That's impossible. Life is precious, death is solemn, and they only know the meaning of this because they were alive. This is the realm of the dead, the deceased is the resident of this country. As long as the deceased wants to live here, they will have to have dignity. Well, moreover..... The God here isn't that kind to accept the request of a person who only cares about themselves."

Loki tilted his mouth and said those heartless words. Ah.... Both side are getting agitated, I don't even know

when it'll become a quarrel. And I thought the negotiation was success, if this goes on.....

"Is that so..... Seems like there is no point in talking anymore. Then let this awesome me grant you your final request —– Go Die. "

Nidhogg angrily wave his front foot with leisure. In that moment, there is a large number of black snake rush in from everywhere. It, it's coming! The rumor one thousand and ten black snakes are coming!

"I won't let you pass!"

To protect Loki who was busy repairing the roots of Læraðr, Brynhildr-sama get in her battle position immediately. She took out her sword without any fear while facing the snake that's coming toward her.

"'The Holy Shieldmaiden' Brynhildr, will repel the attack with all I got!"

"'Black Snake Dragon' Nidhogg. My followers, go bite that women to death."

After them both announced their names, the battle started. Normally, we should have try to avoid this

situation from happening but looks like both side have no intention to back off which led to this battle happened.

“Shine! ‘Liebe • Strafe’[22] !”

The moment the battle started, Brynhildr-sama shouted the name of her sword and pointed it toward the sky. The cool and lovely shout can cause a misunderstanding that it’s a voice which belongs to the spirit of spring. The blue armor also make a transformation following with her voice, the exposed part of the armor gave off a golden shine. The light which had lost its purpose flowed toward the sword like it was seeking redemption and wrapped around it, made up a huge light sword which could light up the whole cave.

“Annihilate my foes! God technique–
‘panzer • Strahl’[23]!!”

With a big momentum, she used her upper boy to swing the sword and gave off a sword flash to smite evils. This can no longer be explained through any sword technique. The flash swallow the dark beings on

the ground while damaging the ground at the same time, Nidhogg's snakes was exterminated in just one second.

The transformed Brynhildr-sama armor released some smoke and it started to cooldown, looks like it will return to its normal state soon. While slowly getting into position[24] —- She sliced the smoke and point the sword toward Nidhogg.

"Let deicide a winner now. It's okay even if you want to surrender. Or are you telling me that you're willing to suffer the same fate as them, King of thousand snakes?"

Brynhildr-sama declared it in a cool manner. Of course I know that she was faking. Because she didn't hold back on the attack just now, it's normal that she cannot execute a powerful attack continuously. If we can manage to let the opponent surrender now, it'll be our victory. But, if that were not the case.....

"....What a surprise, I didn't think a Valkyrie is that capable after reaching the highest level."

“Do you want to surrender?”

“Ku ku, what do you mean? Unfortunately, that’s something impossible. You did mention that the awesome me is the King of thousand snake right. That correct, the awesome me is the King of thousand snakes. The King of thousand snakes with a thousand snake followers and now a naked king, it’s not possible, it’s something impossible. That’s why….”

While still looks leisurely, he waved his front leg again. How is this possible…… this is the action he did just now, don’t tell me!

“How can this be, the snakes…..”

It seems my ominous premonition is trueSsomething was gathering at the shaded area of the cave, and what appear in front of us again is the thousands black snake.

“King of thousands snakes will always have thousands snakes following him, no matter what. Regardless of how many had been kill, the awesome me can summon another thousand easily. Well…. That skill just now, I wonder how many times can you use it?”

Nidhogg showed a disgusting smile. With one flick of his index finger, the huge army of the black snake rushed over toward Brynhildr-sama to assault her.

“Ku……. I won’t be frightened by this type of pawn!”

Brynhildr-sama tried to overcome the despair she felt when she saw the snakes with her fighting spirit, and rushed toward the thousands snake. She looked like she was dancing while continuously performing sharp thrusts. The sword dance of the Valkyrie whise movement was like a flowing water slowly decrease the number of snake without losing its power.

“Hoho, seems you’re quite tenacious. Is it okay to not use the God technique?”

“Ah, it’s not worth letting these kind of pawn witness my God technique twice.”

Brynhildr-sama said with a fearless smile. But…. her words just now seem to be a bit forced as she kept sweating in a cold environment like this. If Brynhildr-sama activated her God technique for the second time, I afraid that she will run out of both her magic power and stamina, which will leave her vulnerable.

I believed that Nidhogg summon his pawn through the usage of the rune of 'feoh', which will only consume a small amount of his magic power. It wouldn't be good for both side in a long term battle, moreover we can have a temporary retreat once we repair the world tree. After that, we can regroup and think of a plan to defeat him, which is why we need to stall time.

But right in this moment –– Loki who kept watching at the battle suddenly gave a warning:

"! Hey! Brynhildr, look up!!"

"Eh....Ahhhh–––!!"

Brynhildr-sama gave a response immediately, but it was too late. A large amount of snake dropped down from the ice pillar at the roof of the cave, Brynhildr-sama gave off a moan while being strangled!

The beloved blue armor of Brynhildr-sama only provide protection on the forehead, chest, part of the hand, leg part and some critical part, while the 'Rustung Wind' is only effective against attack from bow or throwing stone. Thus, there is no protection against the slimy snake which was directly biting her on the exposed part of her skin!

"Ah! Oo, no.....Ahh! This....!"

"Bryn...Brynhildr-sama!"

What.... What is this situation? The beautiful Brynhildr-sama..... Was getting ravaged by those snakes. And I am forced to see this suffering act, it seems like Nidhogg..... Was playing with her.

(Stop it.....)

I try to say the plead that I only thought of now, but it wouldn't come out at all. Why.... Why can't I say it out! It's obvious that I need to stop this hellish scene immediately!

"Keke, what a nice moan, such a pleasure. Well, Loki-sama, aren't you going to help her? Ah, it's not like you

can help, because you are too focus on repairing the world tree. Then let me enjoy it some more."

"...You bastard!"

Like what Nidhogg had said just now, Loki couldn't provide any assistance at all. The only one who can help her is only me. But... why...why! My body cannot stop shaking! Why!

"It's... okay... Sei-kun."

"Brynhildr-sama!"

"It's....okay, Sei-kun...don't.... worry... about ....me.... I ... will... think of something, that's why...."

-Why..... did you say something like that.

She shouldn't have time to worry about other while she is suffering and enduring the hardship alone. But she is actually.... Worry about me who cannot do anything...?

"....Stop it."

I am unable to protect her, unable to stop it. No, it's not that I didn't want to do something, it's just that I

couldn't. Up until now, I was afraid that's why I couldn't even mutter anything to avoid being notice and I tried to conceal my breathing..... while hiding behind Sleipnir.

"You'd better stop it now, you'd better ask your snake to retreat."

"Huh? And I though who is it, it's just a boar. Where did you came from, boar? Did the awesome me just misheard something..... it seem like I heard a pathetic line coming from your mouth?"

After Nidhogg glanced at me, he continued looking at Brynhildr-sama while showing a disgusting smile. You bastard, even though you heard me..... Yet you choose to ignore me.

"You bastard. Do you not understand? I am... giving you an order."

"Hey, damn pig! What did you said just now! Do you want me to flatten you?"

"I dare you."

I'm no longer scared, what left is the hatred and anger

that even I couldn't control it myself and also –- the words that Witige told me before.

- The greedy dwarf who had fallen to the evil side—

Other than me, there is only one person in history who successfully transformed in a dragon. If his technique is the same as me, then the dragon that he transformed to should be the same as mine. Now let me give it a name, the Greed, my name is-

"'The Fallen Dragon' –- 'Fafnir'. Nidhogg, I will..... defeat you!!"

I carved the rune of 'mannaz' in the void and transformed into the fallen magical dragon.

At the same time I announced my name, I sent Nidhogg flying as a greeting. The Nidhogg that was sent flying still able to maintain his posture but it was clear he had shaken a lot.

"No, impossible! You are actually a dragon like me! Aren't you just a small and dirty pig...?"

"I'm not a pig, I am a boar! Do you have problem with your eyes, you jerk!"

I used my right hand and gave him a punch in the face with all I got, and followed by my left hand to hit him from the other side so the pain could make him remember it well. While being in pain, he back down and put some distance between us.

“Oh, you’d better stop it now! If you continue, I cannot guarantee the life of your precious Valkyrie?”

“Hee, I already expected that you would do something like this.”

I breathed in a large volume of the freezing air, and spit it toward Brynhildr-sama. What I released just now is the fusion from the magic power within my body, ‘Poison spit’, which I can only do it when I’m in this form.

“Hey, what are you doing toward your own allies? Are you planning to kill her yourself?”

“How is that possible? That thing I spit just now is a poison for the nervous system, after you breath into it, you won’t be able to control your body freely, and it not life threatening. Since Brynhildr-sama could no longer move and looks like your snake is also in the

same state. Furthermore, since they aren't dead, you can no longer summon new ones right?"

"Hm... Let me praise you for this amazing feat!"

Even if there are still around ten snakes left, his trick doesn't allow him to summon another thousand snakes as it is impossible to have around two thousand follower of snake. He grinded his teeth unhappily as I managed to see through his trick.

"Then let me slaughter you directly! You better be careful, as I will fulfill the promise of flattening you like I said just now!"

The furious Nidhogg used his front left to carve a word on the ground.... This is the rune of 'isa'!

At the same time Nidhogg carve the ice rune, his huge black body was covered up in a silvery white armor. His appearance now with the thick barbed ice armor proved that the black snake dragon was being serious.

It's a pity..... Even if he covered himself with the ice armor, or let say that his trump card is a defensive skill, the battle had already been determined.

My suicide attack cannot be blocked easily by a punch or a claw since I'm already used to dying. I will definitely not lose to this bastard who chose to be defensive.

When I attacked the ice armor the third time, he launched a counter strike. But I would not evade it, even if got hit, I would execute my fourth attack.

My left eye was swollen due to the first counter, and the second counter damaged my right wing. For the next counterattack he bit my tail and I couldn't move, so I decided to cut it.

Of course, while I was in this sorry state, I also give him quite a few punches. The solid armor looked like it was in a bad state. Even after I received a fatal wound, Nidhogg couldn't even launch a single counterattack anymore due to my continuous assault toward him.

(Shattered, Shattered, Shattered, And Shattered!)

My conscious was starting to fade and my vision was getting blurry. It seems my life now was like a candle in a wind. Both my hands already hit their limits due to the constant movement…. I need to, I need to hurry

up and end this battle.....

While I was trying to remain calm from my impatient thought, I moved my arms as if trying to repeat a same task. At this moment, the voice of hope flow into my ear who is on the boundary of life and death.

(! This is awesome..... the armor..... Is shattered!)

There is no longer anything to protect him now since the ice armor had been shattered. If it's now, the thing I want to do.... I better take this opportunity!

(The last strike—!)

While ignoring the bone shattering sound from my finger, I tried to relax my knuckle. My claws were giving off a bright shine as if being happy after they were released. My sharp claws gave off a dark afterglow and I swiped his head.

Pam!

"What...."

In the next moment, the sound that came from the side of the spring is not a cry from Nidhogg who was facing

death nor the sound of his head hitting the ground. The sound that came within the chilly silence is sound of an explosive and my dumbfounded voice.

(How is this possible, my magic power….. ran out?)

My front leg try to move in the void as the dragon form was deactivated due to my magic power running out, like this I fallen on the ground. Damnit, why… I just need to deal my last hit! It's true that the dragon form consumes a large amount of magic power, normally I cannot maintain it for a long time. But…. I was so close to deal the last hit!

While I was lying on the ground, other than despair, there was nothing else that came into my vision. From the time the black snake dragon stare at me furiously, I already knew that this battle had already lost.

"Die, you damn pig."

After he declared the short announcement in a pleased manner, he used his tail to smash me.

The last thing that I saw is –– with determination, Loki took out a big horn from his waist and place it near his

mouth.

-Dong—

Like this—I had revived as usual. To me which death is part of my daily routine, and being alive is like a give and take situation. That's why 'am better than anybody else to judge the current situation calmly.

"You bastard..... how did.....!"

Nidhogg couldn't conceal his shock when he saw the revived me appeared near his tail after using it to smash me without any hesitation. Well this is obvious, but the most important thing is the action that Loki did just now.

He blew the horn which can be heard from the whole world once blown, 'Giallar'. Surprisingly this should belong to the watchman of Bifröst, Heimdall-sama when he detects any danger situation approaching 'Asgard'. That's right..... That horn should only be blown to announce the beginning of 'Ragnarok'. The horn that Loki borrowed was necessary for one of the steps in his secret plan. The moment when Loki blew it, it meant that..... Loki had decided to use his 'trump

card'.

"Wait..... isn't that horn 'Giallar'? Are you out of your minds! What do intend to do when you blow that! Don't tell me that..... This is the beginning of 'Ragnarok'?"

"Kekeke! Who knows? There is no one who knows the meaning of it anyway. But, the thing that is going to begin now is without a doubt.... Your 'End'!"

After he said those sharp words imposingly, Loki put back the 'Giallar' to his waist and temporary stopped his work on repairing the world tree. After closing his eyes to confirm his conditions, he told me while giving a nod:

"Sei! We have no other choice already due to the current situation, let's stick to the plan we discuss before! Had you make up your mind?"

I couldn't answer immediately when he asked. But it was just for a short moment only, since it was only me, who had encountered unlimited times of life and death, could answer it in a short time. I replied to Loki in a relax manner like I was going to have some fun:

“Don’t you know about this, Loki? Determination and giving up are my specialty!”

“Hee, then please forgive me. So, let the dragon have some fun too!”

After Loki accepted my strong-will determination, he took out a bundle of Mistletoes tree branch from his bag. After untying the bundle that consisted of a few ten of the tree branches, he begin to chant the runic magic.

“<<To worship the respected skull of Ymir; I kiss its body. I hereby expose the unchangeable obligation of the Omniscience God. >>”

While chanting the spell in solemn, the density of the area became more visible. The green color air exuded caused the frozen darkness to shake up, and slowly the surrounding was filled with its color.

“<<When both the surface become one, in this world where singing is endless, extinct, rebirth, expression change and defence with the manifestation of the present maternal, growth, birth and luck! The thirteen and eighteen rune of Futhark, eihaz, berkanan! >>”

There was two runes appeared in the small branch which signified the end of this large scale magic. Loki threw the Mistletoes that was blinking non-stop up into the air.

“Bloom in pride! The one and only group of swords ‘Mistilteinn’!!”

Just at that moment, there was a large number of light bullet fall down to the surrounding. Even though Nidhogg use his tail and wings to deflect the light bullets in order to protect himself, but he couldn’t fully deflect them and wounded by some of which. But looks like Loki was conserving some of his magic power for healing purpose so the light bullets were not that powerful, since the power wasn’t that high, it could not finish off an injured dragon.

But this is more than enough. My determination told me that this would be a waste if he was beaten by something like this. Then…. When the moment arrived, I will let the king of thousand snakes witness this. This unreasonable and cruel –- amount of violence is something that me and Loki created.

“Mannaz.”

I activated the rune of human and transform to my human form, I could still use this type of magic even though the revival consume a large amount of my magic power.

“It’s your turn now Sei, I have already make it rain properly! Next is for you to blow this black cloud away! Let us see –— your performance on stage!”

“Oh!”

I tried to use my determination to blow away all the fatigue caused from the over consuming of magic power and dashed forward in one breath while my right hand was holding a sword. Where did the word come from? Of course it’s ‘everywhere’, the light bullets that fell down –- is actually swords. This is a technique that only Loki can perform among all the other talented gods, ‘Mistilteinn’.

This technique make the Mistletoes tree branch to change into a weapon with seven different blades sticking out of the main one, this is something like a transforming magic, it supposed to be some sort of secret weapon. Since he transformed a large amount of the tree branch at the same time, it caused the surrounding to be filled with weapons.

That's right..... That rain of swords was not only for offensive, it also had the function to cause the surrounding to be filled with weapons. It was a technique that helped me grab a weapon from anywhere!

"Woaaaaa!"

I raised my sword and rushed straight to thrust it at Nidhogg. With this momentum, I just needed to make sure the sword hit at the target then.....

Kabaam!

....Eh, well, I already expected this. The opponent was not a fool anyway, he would definitely perform a counter when I rushed toward him. I already knew the possibility that I would be killed before I got close.

But the step now is the most important. Normally death signified the end of everything, but in this battle, death is just the beginning.

Normally, I will revive near my corpse, but the thing that matter most before my revival: That is the safety after revival. That is why, in this situation, my corpse will appear in the safest place. In another words, it will surely appear in the blind spot of Nidhogg which is the cause of my death!

“Yaa!”

I grabbed the sword near me and pierced Nidhogg’s hind leg. After issuing a roar, blood came flowing out of the magic sword. Woah, what is this feeling. I could penetrate the solid skin known as the dragon scale that easily.

“Argh!! What is happening?”

Due to the pain, Nidhogg turned his head in shock. That was normal, because I, whom was supposed to have died, appear in front of him twice. Moreover, it was abnormal to not be shocked as I still continued to attack him after I was revived.

“You bastard!”

Kabaam He swinged his tail and I face death for the third time. My next revival location is -— Nidhogg’s back.

“What a nice timing!”

I used all my strength to push the ‘Mistilteinn’ which was stabbed at his back from the first fall. The blade easily penetrated the dragon scale, it was a pity the hilt did not manage to enter.

“Arghh! You little bastard!”

Nidhogg swayed his huge body to shake me off and with a punch he squashed me, who had fallen off, on the wall.

This sure is hard. Let’s see…. Ah, now I’m below his stomach. Since his body is so huge, there is a lot of blind spot available.

“Take this!”

As usual, I picked up a nearby sword and stabbed it toward his toe accurately. A few of his scales came out,

it seems I managed to cut to the bone based on what I felt from my hand. This is good, this is without a doubt an effective attack!

"~~!! Wait, you, you bastard, how can you be alive each time! What trick are you using, you livestock!"

"My name is Sæhrímnir, I'm just a boar that can revive once per day only."

"Don't lie to me, you have already revived more than one time! You won't stop appearing no matter how many time I kill you!"

"Ah, it's one time because there is only one sunset for one day, and I can only revive the moment the sun set. But what if…. There is multiple sunsets in a single day?"

"…. Don't tell me…… impossible, that kind of thing…." He probably thought that I was saying something nonsense.

That's right, it is something impossible. Which is what most people will say. But Loki can change the impossible to possible with just a little flash.

This miracle happened because of two factors-- the Giallar which can be heard from all the world once blown and the Goddess of the Sun, Sola-sama who transports the sun.

The moment when we arrived at this spring, Sola-sama who was moving to the horizon, after hearing the signal from Giallar, is now moving back and forth at the horizon. This is the preparation that Loki planned earlier.

“This is how the impossible thing happens. Keke, too bad we‘re underground, because I really want to see the scenery of the mysterious continuous sunset!”

Nidhogg huge body started to tremble after looking at the Loki who was laughing. I wonder what feeling does that tremble take after? It was such a pity that I couldn’t understand. But there is one thing that I’m very sure: The current me is immortal.

“This unseen before unlimited revival tactic is a trump card prepared for me who has the determination to die continuously. If possible, I also want to avoid using it but I had already made up my mind. That’s why….

Now it's your turn to make up yours! Nidhogg!"

"Don't...Don't.... Don't come near me!!"

Once again I picked up a sword and rushed toward him. At the same moment, the black snake dragon who is suffering spit out some icy breathe to end my life, a new me was born and appeared in his blind spot. I was killed right away after I stabbed him, once again, there was a lot of repetitions of death and revival. In this battle which blood had been shed by both side– I, who had ignored the fear and suffering of death, kept my concentration while wielding the sword.

Finally we had reached this point, the blind spot which would be his defeat. I – am now revived on top of Nidhogg head.

"This will end it!!"

I picked up the 'Mistilteinn' that was hanging on his horn with my backhand. For this moment, I have sacrificed a few dozen of me.

(Thank you, I will repay the debt)

I, who was very grateful, aimed between his eyebrows

to deliver the final blow!

“Wait!!”

“Eh….?”

There was a sudden shout which make me stop my action. The sound came from underneath my feet.

“Wait, wait for a moment, I beg you! The awesome me, no, I admit defeat! It’s my total loss! That’s why…. Please spare this small life of mine….”

I tried looking at the ground and saw Loki stunned similar to the dumbfounded me. I didn’t think that Nidhogg will plead for his life….

“Black snake dragon-san, don’t you have any pride?”

“Of course I have! But that’s something useful when you have life….. It’s useless once you die, how I possible could believe that I will be kill just because I bite the root of Læraðr….”

“We only came here because that action is causing the world to collapse! Let me say this first, if the tree had fallen, this place will also be destroyed!”

“That, how could I have possible known that! It’s not like I bite it because I like it….. The truth is I actually wanted to eat corpse. But Hel-sama only allowed me to suck some blood at ‘Nastrond’ …. Right at the time, I heard about this. When the awesome me was still a snake, I was always looked down by that damn eagle, Hresvelgr, which I heard that he was eating a big pile of corpses recently. Due to the awesome me being unsatisfied…. the number of time that the awesome me bite Læraðr slowly increase unconsciously. Do you guys understand this? The gluttony started because of the awesome me was being low self-esteem.”

Woah–- the cause of Armageddon is from low self-esteem? What does this mean…..

“Who did you heard about the matter regarding Hresvelgr?”

“It’s from Ratatoskr.”

“….Huh?”

“Eh? Don’t you guys know him? That fellow is a squirrel. Maybe he treat the awesome me as a talking partner, that fellow come here around two times each

three days to report the situation above the ground. Well, he will also inform the situation happening here, which make him a good messenger …. Oh, Loki-sama? What happened, what with the sudden tremble?"

"No, it's nothing. Keke, in a way, I could said that I am very happy? I see, that fellow is the cause of all this mess….. I wonder what excuses he will give."

Woah, Loki is so scary! I am getting goose bump now! I see, so this is the saying not even a few lives will be enough….

"That, that ……. Nidhogg, can you promise not to do anything bad from now on?"

"Yes, I'll do what you say! I swear to the Gods, Jotun and Boar-sama! Then can you please spare my little life……?"

"Oh~ Loki, what do you think?"

I inquired Loki on his opinion and he said this while looking at somewhere:

"I leave it to your feelings. Let see if you can forgive him or not on that."

Loki was talking about Brynhildr-sama, who recovered at some point of time, which was looking toward here. Even though she was still surrounded by the snakes, but it seems like those snakes had no intention to cause any harm to her.

“Are you alright, Brynhildr-sama?”

I jumped down from the top of Nidhogg who was kneeling down, and ran quickly toward Brynhildr-sama. Brynhildr-sama whose armored and cloth reveal some of the delicate places quickly turned around and answered:

“Yes, yes, I’m fine….”

“No, you doesn’t look fine to me. Let me check if there any serious wound! Please let me check it carefully!”

“Ah! Please, Please wait for a moment, Sei-kun, I don’t have any serious wound! Snake-kun, please help me!”

That good, since she was that energetic, it meant that she will alright.

Well, I would have some marks of snake bites on my butt…….

“Brynhildr-sama, what should we do with Nidhogg..... can we forgive him?”

I took off my blouse and put in on top of Brynhildr-sama, while asking. I will leave it to her to decide the punishment for Nidhogg.

“Oh~....Le’st see....”

She put her index finger below her jaw, what a wonderful thinking posture. But in the deep of her eyes gave off some dark light..... Which is from my perspective.

“Actually I, from the start I wanted a bag made out of drake leather. Nidhogg, do you under what I mean?”

“Yes, Yes.....Ah? Drake leather.....? Well, that, that means....”

“Can you create the bag for all my sister and myself?”

“Please, Please.....forgive me---!”

Nidhogg is now kneeling down with his head on the ground. I also did this before.... When I think about it, it made my nose, no, my chest pain.

“Of course that is a joke!”

“Eh?” “Eh?”

“Well…. By the way, Sei-kun? Let’s not talk about Nidhogg first, I feel surprise that you’re feeling the same way as him! Do you really think that I am that kind of person who would do something like this? Am I that scary?”

“Hiiiiii, please forgive me––!”

There are two people here, whose faces are on this freezing ground. Oh, now I think I really understand what Nidhogg is feeling right now.

“Woah, Sei-kun, why don’t you hesitate a bit, that was also a joke!”

“Ah, is that so? I’m sorry, even though I know that Brynhildr-sama is a kind and caring person, but my body is used to these kind of thing.”

“Can, you not make that a habit? But what should I say…… the full force kneeling posture, and the changing in to dragon part….. It seems that Sei-kun and Nidhogg have some unexpected common point.”

“Ah~ I cannot refute that statement since you put it that way.”

“Then can you please forgive him.”

“Ah?”

“I will forgive Nidhogg. Well since he is quite similar to Sei-kun in a way, I will forgive him to this extent. If Sei-kun did any bad thing, I will probably forgive him too….”

Brynhildr-sama blushed and said that softly while facing another side. Eh? Does that mean….. She wanted me to cause some mischief! No, wait, how can there be such a simple explanation! I think what she meant was she trust Nidhogg like how she trust me.

That right–— in reality gaining trust is the hardest thing–— which is also the most important.

“If Brynhildr-sama forgives you ….. Then I have no further opinion.”

– In this world…. There is a lot of mistake and failure. Which is why everyone will regret and be depress. But the important thing is to recognize those mistake and

failure and the most important is to forgive the mistake of others.

Of course, it's not like we can forgive any mistake. But what I think is, similar to this, if it could be forgiven then just forgive it.

Well, the world is fine, Loki is fine, Brynhildr-sama is fine and even I am fine. That's why in the end, nothing had happened at all. I think that this result is produced from all of our efforts.

"I want to thank you for sparing this little life of mine. This little me promise that I will help you on a later day!"

"Is it real? That is awesome, I can't believe that am friend with a Mythical Type. As proof of our friendship, you can eat all my corpses here."

Nidhogg gave a cry of joy, as if all the violence side of him had gone. The cause of this entire problem is from the jealousy and the feeling of inferior…. Okay, in order to not become the second Nidhogg, I will try my best to ignore Gullinbursti from now onward.

Right at this moment, Loki had done repairing the world tree with his magic. Even though it's not completely repaired, but it seems the root of Læraðr is back to its normal state. Well since this tree is something like the catalyst of life, it will be able to recover itself back. It seems our work will end here.

"..... Okay! Let's...."

Loki lifted up his head and show a refreshing smile after the work done. Brynhildr-sama and I, as if we are infected by Loki, also lifted our head and looked at the unseen sky.

This really took quite some efforts. In our heart, there are millions thoughts appeared.... But I guess all of us here have one similar though. As proof, Loki raised his right hand and shouted:

"Let go back and kick Ratatoskr ass!"

Let me confirm again, in this world there is thing that is forgivable and some unforgivable. Then.... The sin of that squirrel which made matter worse, to which does it belong?

After hearing the suggestion of Loki that fulfilled my desire, I showed my brightest smile and nodded my head.

Epilogue

“It hurts! I’m going to die, Loki-sama, if this continues my butt and tail will cry out cause they’re going to separate!”

“Hehe, that’s something worth congratulating, I will celebrate upon their independence. Since everyone is here, let’s do it together!”

In the canteen of the ‘Valhalla Kitchen”. During the morning in the peaceful ‘Asgard’ covered by the sun, Ratatoskr’s screams could be heard. Even though I pity him, but I won’t sympathize with him. This is because this fellow cause an Armageddon level on accident, he needs to spend some time to repent on his action.

—After we reprimanded Nidhogg, me, Loki and Brynhildr once again sound Giallar to inform the completion of the mission throughout the realm, after that we returned to ‘Valhalla’ by foot.

Well, the thing is the distance between ‘Helheim’ and ‘Asgard’ is not that short. Even the world fastest horse,

Sleipnir will need to take one whole night to reach our destination without any rest and sleep.

The one who welcomed us back, were the Gods from Aesir tribe who were struggling to support Læraðr up until then. Although there were very tired from the work, they still gathered up and waited for our return..... Because of this I was very happy.

After Ratatoskr was discovered among the crowd who welcomed us back, Loki began his punishment toward him.

“Loki-chan, I think we should stop now? I think he also didn’t have any bad intention when he did that, I supposed....”

“Hey hey, Freya, it is the most troublesome thing when there is no bad intention. Because of his error, it caused a lot of troublesome matters for us.”

“Loki-chan, did you forget about the matter regarding Skadi? Well you also create trouble for other people, so let’s give such an impressive statement.”

“Argh..... Damn, I get it.”

As if the line just now poked his weak point, Loki with an unsatisfied face released Ratatoskr. After that, Ratatoskr while crying jump onto his savior • the treasure of the nine realm breast, and he try to bury his body into in!

“No! Have that squirrel executed!!”

The ignorance squired cause Lord Odin to be furious. Ah, I also don’t have any objection to this! This pervert squirrel who likes to use his cuteness should be executed immediately, and grill it afterward! … Ah, but I also did something like this before…. Uh, I will also be in danger if the arrow turns toward me! I should gather all the hatred toward Ratatoskr instead!

I was suddenly picked up by someone when the male god and I were more united now compares to when supporting the Læraðr in the cold gaze of the Female goddess.

“Ah, whoa! Brynhildr-sama!”

When I turned my head, I saw my beloved Brynhildr-sama sticking her face on my back

Ah. Why? What happen? Did I done anything to Brynhildr-sama?

“I haven’t given my proper gratitude, so please listen to what I say now….. Thank you so much, Sei-kun.”

Due to anxious and confusion which cause my ear to be stiff, I heard something wonderful.

“I didn’t do anything that deserves your thanks! I did not manage to avoid having a combat with Nidhogg and I didn’t manage to protect you in time.”

“That’s not it, Sei-kun. It’s true that’s one of them, but not only that…. There is still the matter regarding Gerhilde. You helped her to….. and to accepted my request, I wanted to thank you for all of this. But up until now, I did not even face you properly….”

The strength of the two hands that are hugging me slightly increase. She said before that she will return the favor properly.

But that doesn’t matter, I’m not an irresponsible person, and I don’t even need any reward. I only accept the request –– because I want to see Brynhildr-

sama smiling face, I just did that to fulfill my own selfish wish.

“That said, Sei-kun. That time when you mention that you want something?”

“Hi! No, it nothing, that is just a thought only! I don’t really need any reward!”

“Ho ho, you don’t have to be that generous. Since then I ~ am always in my state of gratitude, there won’t be any problem if you state your reward now?”

Ah! Brynhildr-sama hand is rubbing my stomach, I have to…!

“….Yo, Sei, are both of you flirting secretly here? Ah?”

Well, it seems my plan to make Ratatoskr as my scapegoat is finish, and Loki is staring here with his sharp eyes. Nooooo, if this goes on, it’d not be the of me being beheaded, I would also be stab to die after being tied up and once again roasted while being skewered…… In which I would become the rare skewer cuisine!!

“I am very sorry, Brynhildr-sama, let me inform you

my most important wish! Please put me down immediately!”

“Ah, okay…”

Ah, what a waste, even though she said I can request for anything. To think I wasted it on something like this….

But, it’s not over yet, I need to remain calm. Did Brynhildr-sama mention before that the request is only limited to a single use? ….. Nope! Then I will have my chance. I better spend some time and think carefully on what I want, let me settle down first before I decide on it.

Thus, I need to survive this. Even if I could revive, I definitely don’t want to accept any punishment which is similar to Ratatoskr whose was overcome by his lust.

“Yo the dark brown boar.”

At this moment, Lord Odin step forward with a stern expression and spoke toward me.

“Hii, please forgive me!”

“No, I’m not talking about that. About your performance this time, I have an idea.”

“My performance… did I do anything wrong?”

I started to tremble in uneasiness. It seemed there is some unusual matter that Lord Odin want to inform me, the worthless small boar.

Just when I kneeled down to accept my fate, the whole canteen become silent, Lord Odin said his statement in this quiet place.

“From what I heard in Loki report, under your magnificent performance, not only did you defeat the evil dragon Nidhogg, you managed to make him to repent.”

“No, it’s not something that amazing.”

“Is it not true?”

“No… Well, it true that I defeated him…. But I can only done that with the help of Loki’s ‘Mistilteinn’ and Brynhildr-sama who gambled with her life. This is not a victory that was achieved from me alone.”

“Ho, that means it’s an opponent you cannot defeat on your own? But I don’t think so. In fact, if it was not for your unimaginable performance, even Loki, Brynhildr and you cannot even defeat Nidhogg together.”

Lord Odin bent his knee in front of me, and place the God Lance, Gungnir on my shoulder. Under his order, I raise my head, what I saw was… the kind and strict single eye that belongs to the most powerful god.

“In this sincerely moment, I am proud of your triumph. I am proud that you didn’t retreat, didn’t chicken out and didn’t surrender. I hereby pronounce you, who had used your lives and courage to struggle and protect this world, as an Einherjars.”

“!”

I actually… become an Einherjars? I cannot believe it, the honorable title that given to the warrior by the god, the proof of a hero…. Was bestowed to someone like me.

I kept looking at my surrounding. Everyone nodded their head with a kind smile. It seems that not only Lord Odin who accepted it.

Up until now I am a boar with nothing, but not – I am a hero.

“I hereby with the highest honor and the honor of the God, bestow to that noble warrior spirit of yours. From now on, I hope to see your performance, Sæhrímnir.”

“…. To receive this type of honor, a servant like me will accept it gratefully!”

Everyone in the surrounding is cheering toward the kneeling me. God, Jotun, human, dwarf… As if I managed to heard blessing from all the living being in all the realms.

Father – Mother, from now onward, I will continue to work in the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’.

To be a meal…. As well as a hero at the same time.

You can only taste the hero flavor main dished at this place.

Please do come and taste it once!

Translator's Notes and References

1. ↑ a type of French style ice cream meal
2. ↑ Aesirgod, in case you cant read the word
3. ↑ Heiðrún
4. ↑ In Japanese, juicy and jealous pronunciation is very similar
5. ↑ Skidbladnir. Since Japanese doesnt have "L" , the word read as Ski-bra, hence, dirty talk.
6. ↑ Armor in German
7. ↑ Iðavöllr
8. ↑ The word 'joke' is quite similar to 'top part' in Japanese
9. ↑ Witige is a character that appears in the story:'Legends about Theoderic the Great'
10. ↑ From the Old Norse poem of Völundarkviða
11. ↑ Blasen mean blow in German while Stoss mean charge
12. ↑ This is another joke where *nude painting* sound similar as *sketch*
13. ↑ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guillotine

14. ↑ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walking_the_plank
15. ↑ English: He compresses air to increase its pressure around the pot. That will raise the water boiling point! https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boiling-point_elevation
16. ↑ I don't know why. Don't ask me. And no, this is not typo!
17. ↑ High Seat of Odin
18. ↑ the wall
19. ↑ Monotone
20. ↑ the kanji for breast was mention in the last sentence
21. ↑ In Japanese it means "there is no way out"
22. ↑ Love and punishment in German
23. ↑ Amour of light in German
24. ↑ In Japan Kendo, after completing a strike, the concentration and the body posture will be in lax state